

VALE OF GLAMORGAN MODEL BOAT CLUB

Child and Vulnerable Adult protection Policy

- 1.1 This policy will apply to all members of the Vale of Glamorgan Model Boat Club (VGMBC) when attending any activity or Club event and when representing VGMBC at shows, exhibitions, and events.
- 1.2 VGMBC wish to promote model boating as a safe, enjoyable, and rewarding activity for all.
- 1.3 Children, Vulnerable adults, their parents, carers, or guardians can be confident about participating in all the Club's activities.

2 Definitions

- 2.1 A child is a person under 18 years of age
- 2.2 A vulnerable adult is a person aged 18 years and over who due to mental or physical conditions requires a higher level of supervision than an adult. This is to protect them from harm or exploitation.
- 2.3 A member is an individual who is a fully paid-up member of the VGMBC.

3 Care and Welfare

- 3.1 The care and welfare of children is everyone's responsibility, particularly when it concerns protection from abuse. Everyone is responsible to "do what is reasonable in all circumstances for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting child welfare."
- 3.2 However, the parents, carers, guardian, and friends have a vital part to play.
- 3.3 The same guidelines apply to the care of vulnerable adults although the legislation is different.
- 3.4 Abuse can occur anywhere where there are children, in the home, school, playgrounds or at any of the Club's activities. A small minority of people will seek to be with children simply to obtain gratification from abuse. Also, abuse can occur simply because those involved lack the knowledge to prevent a situation arising.
- 3.5 The following simple principles apply to promote the protection of children and vulnerable adults.
- 3.6 The child's welfare is the first consideration.
 - 3.6.1 All children regardless of gender, disability, age, religion, race, or sexual orientation have the right to be protected from abuse and be treated with dignity.
 - 3.6.2 All those working with children should have knowledge and awareness to allow them to make informed decision to prevent placing themselves or children at risk.
 - 3.6.3 All suspicions or allegations of abuse are taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
 - 3.6.4 Caring is a matter of common sense. Everyone should be clear on what is expected of them, and a few simple principles are adhered to. This should not be a responsibility to be feared but is essential if we are to ensure that we as a club provide opportunities for all.
- 3.7 Any child or vulnerable adult concern or allegation, any questions or comments regarding the policy should be directed to the Club Chairperson, Club Secretary or Committee member.

VGMBBC Child Protection and vulnerable adult Protection Policy Guidelines

- 3.8 All club members are expected to respect the dignity and rights of children and vulnerable adults, promote their welfare whilst encouraging their participation.
- 3.8.1 Parents, Carers or Guardians will be expected to always accompany their children or vulnerable adults during club activities or events. They will be responsible for their protection and their behaviour. It is therefore not expected that children or vulnerable adults attend club activities on their own.
- 3.8.2 No member is expected to assume responsibility for a child or vulnerable adult.
- 3.8.3 Notwithstanding the requirements of the paragraph above, should a club member discover a child or vulnerable adult that is unsupervised then the club member must assume responsibility for that person's safety in the first instance.
- 3.8.4 The situation should be resolved as soon as possible by seeking out the person responsible for their safety. Any such occurrence should be reported to a club committee member as soon as possible and a record made of the occurrence.
- 3.8.5 Club members should not be alone with children or vulnerable adults and a minimum of three adult club members are required to be present at activities or events involving children or vulnerable adults.
- 3.8.6 All members have a statutory duty of care towards all other club members regardless of age, race, disability, gender, religion, or sexual orientation.
- 3.8.7 No child or vulnerable adult shall undertake any activity which might put them at risk.
- 3.8.8 Children and vulnerable adults must be always supervised.
- 3.8.9 Whilst supervising children or vulnerable adults, club members should avoid placing themselves in a situation that could be open to misinterpretation or question in accordance with this policy. This policy is in place to protect club members as well as children and vulnerable adults.
- 3.9 Should any club member, parent, carer, guardian, or the person themselves have concerns about the welfare of children or vulnerable adults then they are to contact the club Chairperson, Secretary or Committee member.
- 3.9.1 Any allegations or concerns will be investigated and if necessary, pursued further by the Club Chairperson or Secretary in accordance with these guidelines which are available to all Club members.
- 3.9.2 Committee members should contact either of the club's Safeguarding Officers should they have concerns. The Officers are Duncan Johnson and Colin Gravenor.
- 3.9.3 Any incident to be accurately recorded by the Club Committee member or Club member as soon as possible after the event.