



## Safeguarding Vulnerable People Policy

Portadown Boat Club is an affiliated club with Rowing Ireland

- Portadown Boat Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and vulnerable adults involved in the club from harm.
  - Portadown Boat Club confirms that it adheres to the clubs Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, practices and guidelines and endorses and adopts the policy statement contained therein.
  - A child is anyone under the age of 18. A vulnerable adult is a person 18 years of age or older and unable to care independently for themselves due to physical disability, mental health issues, learning disabilities or due illness, injury or have become severely frail through old age. Every reasonable precaution is taken to ensure their safety and wellbeing is protected when they are participating in club activities.
  - The key principles of Portadown Boat Club Safeguarding Vulnerable People Policy are that:
    - The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is, and must always be, paramount to all other considerations.
    - All participants regardless of age, gender, ability / disability, race, faith, culture, size, shape, language or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse or harm.
    - All allegations or suspicions of abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly and appropriately.
    - Working in partnership with Rowing Ireland (Ulster Branch), statutory bodies, parents, children and young people is essential for the welfare of children and young people and,
    - Children have a right to expect support and personal and social development delivered by an appropriately recruited, vetted and managed person in relation to their level of participation in rowing.
  - Portadown Boat Club recognises that all children have a right to participate in sport in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment whilst at the same time being protected from abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice. Portadown Boat Club recognises that this is the responsibility of everyone involved in the club regardless of their capacity.
  - Portadown Boat Club will implement and comply with the Portadown Boat Club Code of Conduct.
  - If you witness or are aware of an incident where the welfare of a child or vulnerable adult has been put at risk you must in the first instance inform the Club Safeguarding Officer, Stephen Donovan on . They will then inform the Club Captain, Club Secretary and Club President. If an incident involves the Club Safeguarding Officer you should inform the Club Captain, Club Secretary or Club President. It is the responsibility of the Club Committee to formulate an appropriate disciplinary action.
- 8 All members of Portadown Boat Club who have regular supervisory contact with children or a management responsibility for those working with children must undertake Access NI checks.

9 Portadown Boat Club will ensure that all its members, whether they are coaches, parents, rowers or officials will comply with Best Practice Guidance as issued by the Portadown Boat Club. The following are not acceptable and will be treated seriously by the club and may result in disciplinary action being taken by the club:

Working alone with a child, children, vulnerable adult or adults;

Consuming alcohol whilst responsible for children or vulnerable adults;

Providing alcohol to children or allowing its supply;

Smoking in the presence of children;

Humiliating children or vulnerable adults;

Inappropriate or unnecessary physical contact with a child or vulnerable adult;

Participating in, or allowing, contact or physical games with children or vulnerable adults;

Having an intimate or sexual relationship with any child or vulnerable adult developed as being in a position of trust;

Making sexually explicit comments or sharing sexually explicit material.

10 Portadown Boat Club manages the changing facilities and arranges for them to be supervised by 2 adults of the appropriate gender for the persons using the facilities. Portadown Boat Club ensures that all its members, coaches, parents and officials are aware that adults must not change at the same time, using the same facilities as children or vulnerable adults.

11 Portadown Boat Club will ensure that its coaches and helpers will receive the support and training considered appropriate to their position and role.

12 Any events held at Portadown Boat Club premises must comply with this policy and if appropriate a Safeguarding Plan should be discussed at committee and circulated to those affected. Overseas or domestic tours undertaken by the club must comply with the relevant Regulations and Guidance issued by Rowing Ireland.