

Brough Park Running Club Safeguarding Policy and Procedures - June 2021

Introduction

These policies and procedures outline what safeguarding is and what to do if you have a concern. These policies and procedures apply to all Brough Park Running Club activities including its own activities and when participating at other races/events as a representative of Brough Park Running Club, which are aimed at adults and/or children.

We all have a responsibility to safeguard adults and children who are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse and neglect.

1. Policy statement

Brough Park Running Club is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all people involved in running. It accepts its responsibility to assist in the welfare of all people and to safeguard them from poor practice, abuse and bullying.

All individuals within the organisation - members/volunteers - have a role and responsibility to help ensure the safety and welfare of members and guests.

The club accepts that we are required to fulfil our duty of care, which means that we must do everything that can be reasonably expected of us to help safeguard and protect people from harm, and to act when we suspect that someone is being harmed, or is at risk of harm.

This policy will be reviewed on a 6 monthly basis.

2. Safeguarding of Adults

These policies and procedures apply to any adult who is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, or who is unable to protect themselves from such risk.

Safeguarding adults is underpinned by the Care Act 2014 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

Types of abuse suffered by adults identified in the Care Act 2014 are: Physical; Sexual; Psychological/Emotional/Mental; Financial and material; Neglect and act of omission; Discriminatory; Organisational; Modern Day Slavery; Domestic Violence; and Self Neglect. Other types of harm that adults may experience include: Cyber Bullying; Forced Marriage; Female Genital Mutilation; Mate Crime; and Radicalisation.

3. Safeguarding of Children

Brough Park Running Club is also a club for children, admitting children as part of a family membership which includes at least one adult member, or the parent will register their child using their own contact details.

Child members are permitted to run with the club where an associated adult member either runs in the same group or delegates their authority and responsibility for the safeguarding and well-being of that child to another adult at the time of the run or the adult will be present at the run as a spectator.

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) identifies four main types of child abuse

- Physical abuse - hitting, shaking, throwing, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child
- Emotional abuse - causing severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development, conveying to a child or children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It also includes bullying, cyber-bullying, frightening, exploitation or corruption of children.
- Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. This may include a wide range of contact or non contact activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming and may be perpetrated by males or females including other children.
- Neglect - the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs.

4. Training and communication

We want to make sure that all of our volunteers and officers have the right skills and qualities to create a safe environment. The club will review the safeguarding policy annually and ensure that it is updated with any relevant legislation, policies and procedural changes.

All club officers (committee members and those who frequently lead running groups) will be required to read these policies and procedures.

The club will make its Safeguarding Policy and Procedures available to all officers, volunteers, members and partner organisations.

5. Use of Photography

There is no legal power to prevent photography or filming in a public place. However, certain individuals may use published photographs or visit sporting events to take inappropriate photographs or video footage of adults and this could include children or adults at risk. During club events, such as the weekly C25K and events/races run by other organisations, photographs may be taken. In these circumstances, Brough Park Running Club will:

- * Provide suitable opportunity to record requests not to publish images, and ensure as far as reasonably practicable that published images do not include any person who is the subject of such a request. This is usually discussed at sign up to the group.
- * Assure you that any photographic images taken and used will be stored securely, and destroyed when no longer required for the purpose
- * Assure you that only appropriate photographs will be taken
- * Operate a system for the discreet identification of children in photographs, if required
- * Not allow unsupervised access to children or adults at risk or one to one photo sessions
- * Inform all runners and parents how to act on any safeguarding concerns at the events, and act on any such concern.

Whether or not an official photographer is present, it is difficult for the club to prevent casual photography from taking place. People attending such events will be advised that family members and their friends are welcome to take photos at the event for their own family records only and these should not be published or shared on any social media.

Publishing data and images:

- * Where we seek to publish an image not subject to the general restrictions above, we will ask for the explicit permission of children and their carers to take and use their image.
- * If a child is named, we will avoid using their photograph, with the exception of a trophy presentation, permission will be gained from parent and child.
- * If a photograph is used, we will avoid naming the child, with the exception of a trophy presentation, permission will be gained from parent and child.
- * Where results including children's results are published, we will include only the child entrant's name and result.
- * Race numbers will be omitted from results so there is no direct link between any child's name and any published image in which the race number may be seen.
- * We will never publish personal details (email addresses, telephone numbers, addresses etc) of a child, young person or adult whether they are at risk or not.

Photographs taken on club activities will be subject to the same requirements. It will be assumed that club members have consented to the use and publication of their image unless there is reason to believe they would refuse consent or lack the capacity to give it.

6. What to do if you have concerns

Club members, committee members and run leaders are not expected to be an expert in recognition of a safeguarding concern; however, all adults working, volunteering and participating have a duty of care to be vigilant and respond appropriately to suspicions of poor practice, abuse or bullying. They should also respond to any indication of abuse that may be occurring outside of the club setting.

This does not mean that it is your responsibility to decide whether a concern constitutes poor practice, abuse or bullying but it is your responsibility to report your concerns to the club leaders (Brian or Steve) or any of the committee members. These concerns may arise due to:

- An individual disclosing that they are being abused
- The behaviour of someone towards a child or an adult at risk
- A number of behavioural indicators observed over a period of time

The Club leaders, Chairman or Committee Members will take advice as appropriate on the need to refer the matter to the relevant authorities. This may include advice from England Athletics or the local safeguarding authorities. If in doubt, their default position must be to report the concern.

If you cannot contact someone within the club or feel that your concerns are not being dealt with properly you can contact:

Adults at Risk

Call 0345 604 2719 - A trained member of staff is available to help between 8.30am-5pm Monday-Friday
Out of hours please contact the Duty Team on 0345 604 2886

Children at Risk

Under 18's who live in Staffordshire - Call the Early Help Teams - 0800 131 3126
Staffordshire Social Services - 0300 111 8010
Out of hours please contact the Duty Team on 0345 604 2886

UK Athletics Welfare Team - 0121 713 8450

For concerns regarding a child another option is to contact the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000

