



## **SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

*BlackRock Board Racing is affiliated to Surfing England and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all members, volunteers and parents to share this commitment.*

## **Safeguarding Policy BlackRock Board Racing**

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### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 This policy has been developed in accordance with the principles established by the Children Acts 1989 and 2004; the Education Act 2002, and in line with government publications: “Working Together to Safeguard Children” 2006, “Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families” 2000, “What to do if You are Worried a Child is Being Abused” 2003. The guidance reflects “Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education” DfES Jan 2007.
- 1.2 The Governing body takes seriously its responsibility under section 175<sup>1</sup> of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; and to work together with other agencies to ensure adequate arrangements within our organisation to identify, assess, and support those children who are suffering harm.
- 1.3 We recognise that all adults, including temporary staff<sup>1</sup>, volunteers and committee members, have a full and active part to play in protecting our students from harm, and that the child’s welfare is our paramount concern.
- 1.4 All staff believe that our organisation should provide a caring, positive safe and stimulating environment that promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child.
- 1.5 The aims of this policy are:
  - 1.5.1 To support the child’s development in ways that will foster security, confidence and independence.
  - 1.5.2 To provide an environment in which children and young people feel safe, secure, valued and respected, and feel confident, and know how to, approach adults if they are in difficulties, believing they will be effectively listened to.
  - 1.5.3 To raise the awareness of all staff of the need to safeguard children and of their responsibilities in identifying and reporting possible cases of abuse.
  - 1.5.4 To provide a systematic means of monitoring children known or thought to be at risk of harm, and ensure we, the organisation, contribute to assessments of need and support packages for those children.
  - 1.5.5 To emphasise the need for good levels of communication between all members of staff.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 157 in the case of an Independent School

<sup>1</sup> Wherever the word “staff” is used, it covers ALL staff on site, including ancillary supply and self employed staff, contractors, volunteers working with children etc, and committee members

- 1.5.6 To develop a structured procedure within the organisation which will be followed by all members of the organisation community in cases of suspected abuse.
- 1.5.7 To develop and promote effective working relationships with other agencies, especially the Police and Social Care.
- 1.5.8 To ensure that all staff working within our organisation who have substantial access to children have been checked as to their suitability, including verification of their identity, qualifications, and a satisfactory List 99 or Enhanced CRB check (according to guidance)<sup>2</sup>, and a single central record is kept for audit by the governing body.

## **2.0 Safe Organisation, Safe Staff**

### **2.1 We will ensure that:**

- 2.1.1 All members of the BlackRock Board Racing Club understand and fulfil their responsibilities.
- 2.1.2 We have a designated officer for safeguarding within the club.
- 2.1.3 All members of committee and coaching staff are provided with child protection awareness at induction, so that they know who to discuss a concern with.
- 2.1.4 All members of staff, volunteers, and committee members know how to respond to a young person who discloses abuse.
- 2.1.5 All parents/carers are made aware of the responsibilities of staff members with regard to child protection procedures through publication of the Club's Safeguarding Policy.
- 2.1.6 Community users organising activities for children are aware of the organisation's child protection guidelines and procedures.
- 2.1.7 We will ensure that child protection type concerns or allegations against adults working in the club are referred to the Surfing England team for further advice.

### **2.2 Our procedures will be regularly reviewed and up-dated.**

### **2.3 The name of the Club Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS), will be clearly described in the organisation, with a copy of this document statement explaining the organisation's role in referring and monitoring cases of suspected abuse.**

## **3.0 Responsibilities**

### **3.1 The DPS is responsible for referring a child if there are concerns about possible abuse, to Surfing England Child Protection who will then refer to Children,**

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<sup>2</sup> Guidance regarding CRB checks is currently in "Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education" Jan 2007

Young Persons and their Families Services (CYPS) acting as a focal point for club members to discuss concerns.  
Surfing England will then undertake the procedures as detailed in Section 3 of the 'Surfing England Safeguarding Policy'.

#### **4.0 Supporting Children**

- 4.1 We recognise that a child who is abused or witnesses violence may feel helpless and humiliated, may blame themselves, and find it difficult to develop and maintain a sense of self worth.
- 4.2 We recognise that the organisation may provide the only stability in the lives of children who have been abused or who are at risk of harm.
- 4.3 We accept that research shows that the behaviour of a child in these circumstances may range from that which is perceived to be normal to aggressive or withdrawn.
- 4.4 Black Rock Board Racing Club will support all young people by:
  - 4.4.1 Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness, through the club activities as well as our relationships, whilst not condoning aggression or bullying.
  - 4.4.2 Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment within the club.
  - 4.4.3 Liaising and working together with all other support services and those agencies involved in the safeguarding of children.
  - 4.4.4 Notifying Surfing England and/or social care as soon as there is a significant concern.

#### **5.0 Confidentiality**

- 5.1 We recognise that all matters relating to safeguarding are confidential.
- 5.2 The DPS will disclose any information about a student to other coaches or committee members on a need to know basis only.<sup>3</sup>
- 5.3 All adults must be aware that they have a professional responsibility to share information with other agencies in order to safeguard children.
- 5.4 All adults must be aware that they cannot promise a child to keep secrets which might compromise the child's safety or wellbeing.
- 5.5 We will always undertake to share our intention to refer a child to Social Care with their parents /carers unless to do so could put the child at greater risk of harm or impede a criminal investigation. We will consult with Surfing England on this point.

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<sup>3</sup> Guidance about sharing information, can be found in the booklet "What to do if You are Worried a Child is being Abused" DoH 2003 [www.doh.gov.uk](http://www.doh.gov.uk) and as at footnote 3

## **6.0 Supporting Staff**

- 6.1 We recognise that adults working in the club who have become involved with a child who has suffered harm or appears to be likely to suffer harm may find the situation stressful and upsetting.
- 6.2 We will support such adults by providing an opportunity to talk through their anxieties with the DPS and to seek further support as appropriate.

## **7.0 Allegations against staff**

- 7.1 All club staff should take care not to place themselves in a vulnerable position with a child. It is always advisable for interviews or work with individual children or parents to be conducted in view of other adults.
- 7.2 We understand that a student may make an allegation against a member of staff.
- 7.3 If such an allegation is made, or information is received which suggests that a person may be unsuitable to work with children, the member of staff receiving the allegation or aware of the information, will immediately inform the DPS.
- 7.4 The organisation will follow the Surfing England procedures for managing allegations against staff<sup>3</sup>.

## **8.0 Whistle-blowing**

- 8.1 We recognise that children cannot be expected to raise concerns in an environment where adults fail to do so.
- 8.2 All adults should be aware of their duty to raise concerns, where they exist, about the management of child protection, which may include the attitude or actions of colleagues. If it becomes necessary to consult outside the organisation, they should speak in the first instance to the DPS following the Whistleblowing Policy<sup>3</sup>.

## **9.0 Physical Intervention**

- 9.1 Our policy on physical intervention by adults acknowledges that adults must only ever use physical intervention as a last resort, when a child is endangering him/herself or others, and that at all times it must be the minimal force necessary to prevent injury to another person.
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9.2 Such events should be recorded and signed by a witness.

9.3 We understand that physical intervention of a nature which causes injury or distress to a child may be considered under child protection or disciplinary procedures.

## **10.0 Bullying**

10.1 Our policy on bullying acknowledges that to allow or condone bullying may lead to consideration under child protection procedures. This includes cyber, racist, homophobic and gender related bullying.

## **11.0 Racist Incidents**

11.1.1 Our policy on racist incidents acknowledges that repeated racist incidents or a single serious incident may lead to consideration under child protection procedures.

## **12.0 Prevention**

12.1 We recognise that the club plays a significant part in the prevention of harm by providing young members with good lines of communication with trusted adults, supportive friends and an ethos of protection.

12.2 The club community will therefore:

12.2.1 Work to establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure and are encouraged to talk and are always listened to.

12.2.2 Ensure that all children know there is an adult in the organisation whom they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty.

## **13.0 Health & Safety**

13.1 Our Code of Conduct document, reflects the consideration we give to the protection of our children both physically within the organisation environment, and for example in relation to internet use, and when away from the organisation when undertaking organisation trips.

13.2 Our Water Safety Document reflects the safety protocols that the club will use to reduce the risk to members during club activities.