



Safeguarding Policy – to be read in conjunction with the Club Policy/Code of Conduct/Changing Room Policy

All members and carers are advised to view these documents, available on the website.

“SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE’S BUSINESS” HM Government

More information can be seen at the following link:

<https://paddleuk.org.uk/safeguarding-policies/>

Wey Kayak Club is fully committed to Safeguarding the wellbeing of its members. We believe everyone has a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them. All members should show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of others, and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the Club Policy - Code of Conduct and the following:

- The child's welfare is paramount. Anyone under the age of 18 is classed as a child.
- All children, regardless of age, ability or disability, gender, race, religion or belief, marital status and gender identity, sex or sexual orientation have a right to be protected from **ANY form of bullying, harassment, discrimination and abuse.**
- Safeguarding children is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. (NSPCC 2022)
- All concerns or allegations of harm must be taken seriously and responded to appropriately.

We believe that taking part in Paddlesport should be a positive and enjoyable part of people’s lives and to achieve this we have the following expectations:

- Club coaches and helpers should follow the Safeguarding Policy and the Club’s Code of Conduct
- All Club coaches, helpers and officials should read and adhere to the Paddle UK Safeguarding Policies (link above). The Club will follow the guidance of these in the event of any concerns or allegations.
- Club coaches and helpers will be provided with relevant training in the safeguarding and protection of children and vulnerable groups.
- The Club will ensure that anyone who meets the eligibility criteria for a Disclosure check will not be deployed until a satisfactory check has been returned.
- The Club will obtain written medical details of young paddlers which will be made known to coaches, where deemed appropriate and/or necessary. **The onus will be on the parent/carer to ensure details are updated and that the coach leading any given session is aware of relevant medical conditions or recent health episodes that may impact on fitness to paddle.**
- Anyone coaching for the Club should be a member of Paddle UK. The Club will encourage and support helpers to gain qualifications and assist coaches to stay updated.
- The Club will identify persons whose role it is to deal with any issues concerning Safeguarding and Child Protection (Club Welfare Officers) and notify this person to all members. Anyone with concerns with respect to the welfare of a child (or other person at risk) should contact that person. If that person is unavailable they can contact the PaddleUK Safeguarding Lead, Surrey C-SPA or the Police on 999 if there is an immediate risk of harm.

The Club will review this Policy annually. **Date for Review: End July 2025**

Contacts:

Club Welfare Officers – Fay Lamph, Amanda Childerstone, Ben Webb, Emily Cartwright

Email: welfare_officer@weykayak.co.uk

Childline: 0800 1111

Surrey: C-SPA Monday to Friday 9 – 5

☎ 0300 470 9100

Outside office hours – Emergency Duty Team - ☎01483 517898

**Paddle UK Safeguarding Team: ☎ 0115 8655354
safeguarding@britishcanoeing.org.uk**