

## **Safeguarding statement**

### **What we advocate:**

UK Coaching is the lead agency for coaching in the UK. We are here to support people to deliver great coaching and to support those organisations who recruit, support and deploy coaches. We advocate that our partners have a professional duty to provide children and young people with appropriate safety and protection, for which we have produced a number of workshops, learning resources and guidance over the years

It is imperative that anyone involved in sport and physical activity provision for children and young people is alert to:

- Possible indicators of abuse and neglect;
- Risks that individual abusers or potential abusers, may pose to children; and
- Understanding what actions they should take should concerns arise.

### **Our Commitment:**

UK Coaching and our partners have a duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of individuals who are under the age of eighteen.

We are committed to:

- Making the welfare of children and young people paramount. This means that the need to ensure that children and young people are protected is a primary consideration and may override the rights and needs of those adults working with them
- Creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all young people who are involved with sport and physical activity, enabling everyone whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity to participate in UK Coaching organised activities in a fun and safe environment
- Taking all reasonable steps to protect children and young people from harm, discrimination and degrading treatment and to respect their rights, wishes and feelings
- Taking seriously all concerns and allegations of poor practice or abuse and responding swiftly and appropriately to them in accordance with current procedures
- Tackling any areas of concern which are raised
- Putting systems and procedures in place to safeguard children and young people working with it
- Ensuring that all UK Coaching staff and accredited workforce (Tutors) who work with, or have the potential to work with, children and young people are appropriate for their role and responsibilities and are provided with relevant training
- Recognising that there are several groups, e.g. deaf and disabled children and adults (dependent upon a caregiver; impaired ability to utilise self-defence; behavioural signs may be interpreted as a characteristic of the disability) and talented and elite young people and adults (over-training; pushed too far; overly focused on performance goals to achieve success) who are vulnerable to abuse
- Recognising that children, young people and families from minority group backgrounds may face additional barriers to accessing help and reporting concerns in respect of safeguarding issues (language; family honour, shame & stigma; fear of rejection / broken confidentiality within the community)

UK Coaching expects that all NGBs will have their own policies covering safeguarding and welfare. We recognise our responsibility to work in partnership with other partners and statutory bodies in the event of a concern arising relating to a child or young person. UK Coaching is working towards the NSPCC's Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) Standards for safeguarding and protecting children in sport, which reflects statutory requirements and government guidance, and are referenced in the Code for sports governance.

We treat safeguarding very seriously. The *Safeguarding and Protecting Children* (SPC) workshops and resources meet the key safeguarding learning needs of coaches and other sport's staff and volunteers. The NSPCC and the Child Protection in Sport Unit fully support the workshop and resources to help organisations and individuals to act to make sport and physical activity the best experience it can be for current and future generations.

Since November 2014, UK Coaching has offered on-line Safeguarding renewal modules: *Safeguarding and Protecting Children - Deaf and Disabled*; *Safeguarding and Protecting Children - Digital Kids*; *Safeguarding and Protecting Children - Positive Parents*.

In October 2020, we made our Safeguarding and Protecting Children workshop and Safeguarding and Protecting Children (16-18 year old) available as an online classroom.

We are committed to providing accredited tutors so that learners may participate in UK Coaching's workshops in a safe and secure environment. On this basis, we aim to help to ensure our people always act in accordance with the high standards we advocate.

### **Safeguarding Policy:**

UK Coaching has a Safeguarding and Protecting Children policy, the aim of which is to set the context, commitment, principles, scope and core practice guidelines to members of staff and accredited Tutor workforce

Through our work, we aim to:

- raise awareness of child protection issues and promote good practice
- ensure accredited tutors are able to take the appropriate action when concerns over the welfare of a child or young person are raised
- ensure accredited tutors fully understand their responsibilities and are provided with the appropriate training/regular updates of the legislation

### **Safeguarding Officers:**

UK Coaching has a Lead Safeguarding Officer (LSO) and a Deputy Safeguarding Officer (DSO) who have delegated responsibility for Safeguarding within UK Coaching. They will provide advice and guidance to the senior management team on all safeguarding and child protection issues and deal with any concerns raised in this area (contact details are below). Our Lead Safeguarding Officer is trained and has a clear job description.

### **Concerns over the conduct of a UK Coaching accredited tutor and/or member of staff:**

Any formal complaints or child protection concerns/issues will be taken very seriously, acknowledged by UK Coaching within 48 hours and action taken to investigate or address concerns.

Lead Safeguarding Officer  
Heather Douglas  
UK Coaching  
2 City Walk  
Leeds  
LS11 9AR

07718 583 654

[safeguarding@ukcoaching.org](mailto:safeguarding@ukcoaching.org)

Deputy Safeguarding Officer  
Alan Rapley  
UK Coaching  
2 City Walk  
Leeds  
LS11 9AR

07980 583 882

[safeguarding@ukcoaching.org](mailto:safeguarding@ukcoaching.org)

## Welfare concerns:

Please refer to Appendix A within our [Safeguarding Policy](#) for those organisations who can offer support

<p><u>The Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU)</u> can be contacted on: 0116 366 5590 <a href="mailto:cpsu@nspcc.org.uk"><b>cpsu@nspcc.org.uk</b></a></p>
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If a coach, parent or other individual has concerns about a child or young person or vulnerable adult, they should immediately report their concern to the Lead Welfare Officer of the Governing Body of Sport concerned, who should be trained to take the appropriate action. Information / contacts for Lead Welfare Officers can be found on the CPSU website <https://thecpsu.org.uk/help-advice/deal-with-a-concern>

<p><u>The NSPCC Adult helpline</u> is available for advice and support: 0808 800 5000 <a href="mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk"><b>help@nspcc.org.uk</b></a></p>
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If there is no Governing Body of Sport to report the concern to, or you cannot contact the Governing body, you should refer the matter directly to the local Children's Social Care (Social Services) or if this is not possible then please report the concern to the police using the 101 number. **If you feel a child is in immediate danger you must call the police immediately (999).**

## Non-recent Abuse:

Non-recent abuse is an allegation of neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse made by or on behalf of someone who is now 18 years or over, relating to an incident which took place when the alleged victim was under 18 years old. Anyone wishing to report non-recent abuse should follow the reporting route outlined above

August 2022