



Tamar Canoe Association



LOTTERY
FUNDED



SPORT
ENGLAND

PADDLE
ENGLAND
AFFILIATED CLUB

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy

April 2024:

Introduction:

The Tamar Canoe Association is committed to safeguarding children, young people, and vulnerable adults involved in our activities. This policy adheres to recognised best practice guidelines, with specific reference to Paddle UK's Codes of Conduct and ethics as outlined on the Paddle UK website. Our club aims to create a safe and enjoyable environment for all participants.

Policy Objectives:

1. **Adherence to PADDLE UK Code of Ethics:** All club coaches and helpers must follow the Paddle UK (PADDLE UK) Code of Ethics in their interactions with participants.
2. **Compliance with PADDLE UK Safeguarding Policies:** All club coaches, helpers, and officials working with young people and vulnerable adults must read and adhere to the Paddle UK Safeguarding Children's Policy and Safeguarding Adult Policy. The club will follow the guidance of these policies in case of concerns or allegations.
3. **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Checks:** The club will ensure that anyone meeting the eligibility criteria for a DBS check will not be deployed until a satisfactory check has been returned.
4. **Child Safeguarding Training:** All coaches working with young people must complete the PADDLE UK requirement for Child Safeguarding Training.
5. **Awareness of Code of Conduct:** The club will ensure that all members are aware of the Club's code of conduct and the named individuals within the club responsible for handling Child Safeguarding and Vulnerable Adult issues.
6. **Medical Details:** The club will obtain written medical details of young paddlers as necessary and share this information with coaches where appropriate.
7. **Membership Requirement:** Any paddler who coaches for the club should be a member of Paddle UK. The club will encourage and support helpers in gaining qualifications and assisting coaches in staying updated.
8. **Appointment of Club Welfare Officers:** The club will appoint Club Welfare Officers whose roles include dealing with Safeguarding issues and notifying all members of these concerns.

Reporting Concerns:

Any concerns regarding the welfare of a club member or participant should be reported to:

- Email: chairman@tamarcanoassociation - They will refer the matter to Paddle UK for guidance.

Concerns Outside of the Club:

If a member or coach suspects that a child or young person attending the club has suffered or is likely to suffer significant harm, they should report it to the Child Protection Officer, who will make the appropriate referral to Paddle UK. [P1-Paddle-UK-Safeguarding-Children-Policy-January-2023.pdf](#)

Paddle UK Designated Safeguarding Lead Susan Hicks tel 0115 8655354 safeguarding@paddleuk.org.uk. In urgent situations where direct contact with Paddle UK is not possible, contact:

- Local Children's Services Department.

- NSPCC Child Protection Helpline at 0808 800 5000.
- Childline at 0800 1111 or www.childline.org.uk.
- Police at 999 or 111.

Incident Reporting:

In the event of any incident, the club will follow the latest reporting procedure as outlined on the Paddle UK Website.
<https://paddleuk.org.uk/report-a-safeguarding-concern/>

This updated Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults Policy supersedes any previous versions and is effective as of April 2024. All members are expected to adhere to this policy and any associated procedures. The policy will be reviewed and updated as necessary.

Reviewed September 2025