

Ryedale Anglers Club Safeguarding Policy

1. Policy Statement

Ryedale Anglers Club (RAC) is committed to ensuring a safe and protective environment for all its members and participants in RAC organised activities, particularly children, young people, and vulnerable adults. We uphold everyone's responsibility within the club to prevent the physical, sexual, or emotional abuse of any member.

2. Purpose

This Safeguarding Policy aims to:

- Outline responsibilities and provide a clear action plan relating to safeguarding issues.
- Ensure all members and guests are aware of their obligations to protect members and guests from harm and abuse.
- Establish procedures for identifying and addressing potential risks.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all members, officers, volunteers, and participants involved in club activities. The policy is made available for review and use on the Ryedale Anglers website:

<https://www.ryedaleanglers.org.uk/>

4. Definitions

- **Child and Young Person:** Anyone under the age of 18 years.
- **Vulnerable Adults:** Defined as any person aged 18 or over who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age, or illness, and who is unable or may be unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation.

5. Responsibilities

- **Welfare/Safeguarding Officer:** Keith Lewis has been appointed by the RAC Board. Per Board request Keith has completed the Angling Trust Volunteer Self Disclosure. He is responsible for the implementation of this policy and acts as the primary contact for concerns or reports of abuse.

- Contact Information:
 - Email: keith.k.r.lewis@gmail.com
 - Phone: 07852 127274
- All club members are required to observe this policy and cooperate with the Safeguarding Officer on safeguarding matters.

6. Procedures

- **Recruitment & Events:** All volunteers and staff working with children or vulnerable adults must undergo appropriate checks, potentially including DBS checks, as required. The Welfare/Safeguarding Officer shall be notified in advance of any such activities and will provide guidance on checks required and appropriate level of supervision.
- **Training:** As necessary and appropriate club members will receive guidance on recognizing and reporting abuse or potential safeguarding issues.
- **Reporting:** Any concerns about abuse or safeguarding issues must be immediately reported to the Welfare/Safeguarding Officer. Confidentiality will be maintained, with information shared only as necessary to protect the welfare of the individuals involved or as may be required by any agency with statutory child, young person or vulnerable person protection powers.
- **Response:** The Welfare/Safeguarding Officer will investigate all reports swiftly and thoroughly, working with local authorities and organizations where necessary.

7. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to reflect changes in legislation and the needs of the club members.

8. Contact

For any safeguarding concerns, please contact the Welfare/Safeguarding Officer, Keith Lewis, at the provided contact details.

Appendix: Useful Contacts & References

- **Angling Trust Safeguarding:** <https://anglingtrust.net/safeguarding/safeguarding-policies/>
- **NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000**

Declaration

Ryedale Anglers Club fully endorses and will adhere to the above Safeguarding Policy.

Approval

This policy was approved by the Ryedale Anglers Board on 31st May 2024 and is due for review on 31st May 2025.