



The Bay Stand-up Paddleboard Club Vulnerable Adults/Group Policy

Good Practice Guidelines

Vulnerable person definition:

“A person who is, or may be, in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation”

By following these guidelines you will help to protect vulnerable people within the club.

- Avoid situations where you are alone with a vulnerable person. The Bay Stand-up Paddleboard Club acknowledges that occasionally there may be no alternative, for example, where a vulnerable person falls ill and has to be taken home. We would stress, however, that one to one contact must never be allowed to occur on a regular basis.
- If any form of physical support is required ask the persons permission, explain what you are doing and why to the vulnerable person.
- Where possible ask parents/carers to be responsible for vulnerable person in changing rooms. Always ensure that whoever supervises young people work in pairs.
- Where there are mixed teams/groups away from home, they should always be accompanied by an adult male and female coach/helper.
- Do not allow physically rough or sexually provocative games, or inappropriate talking or touching.
- If it is necessary to do things of a personal nature for a vulnerable adult, make sure you have another adult accompanying you. Get the consent of the parent/carer and if possible the child/vulnerable person. Let them know what you are doing and why.
- Ensure that any claims of abuse by a vulnerable person are taken seriously and that it is dealt with by people who know what to do.
- Ensure that the nature and intensity of training does not exceed the capacity of a vulnerable person.
- Follow the recognised guidelines for photography and video.
- What if you accidentally hurt a child? - You should report such an incident immediately to another Club Coach/official and make a written note of it. You should also inform the child's parents/carers, preferably in person.

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- Is touching OK? If a coaching technique would benefit from physical contact or support then first asks the persons permission (e.g. would you mind if I held your shoulders to show you what I mean?) It is useful to take time to explain why and how this is used to the paddler and their parent or carer. Touching can be OK and appropriate as long as it is neither intrusive nor disturbing or for the wrong reason.

If a member is unsure of any points in the guidelines, he or she should raise this to the Club Chairman.

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