

Spectrum Roller Skating Club (Academy)

Safeguarding Policy

The purpose of this policy statement : Spectrum Roller Skating Club (Academy) is committed to supporting all young people to enjoy and excel in roller skating and fully recognises that children need a safe, protective and nurturing environment if they are to fulfil their potential in sport.

Spectrum Roller Skating Club (Academy) aims to ensure safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is a fundamental consideration in everything we do. We recognise that we have a duty of care towards young people and need to ensure that we offer a protective and child-friendly environment that gives parents reassurance that their children will be happy and safe.

Spectrum Roller Skating Club (Academy) works with children and families as part of its activities. These include: Recreational Beginner Classes, Squad Training Sessions, Holiday Clubs, Roller Discos, Private Lessons and Competitions.

Spectrum Roller Skating Club (Academy) will endeavour to promote the highest standards of care for all members, parents, staff, volunteers and officials by:

- Observing and adopting Safeguarding Guidelines for the protection of children and vulnerable adults.
- Providing staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

We believe that:

- Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to operate in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a Welfare Officer
- Ensuring that the best coaching practice guidelines are followed at all times.
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying if it should arise
- Recruiting staff safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made (ie DBS Screening)
- Implementing a code of conduct for staff and volunteers

- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- Ensuring that grievances or complaints are dealt with promptly and in accordance with the complaints policy.
- Having a zero tolerance level of poor practice, bullying or any other potential form of abuse.

Welfare Officers

As a club, we have a Welfare Officer. The Welfare Officer has the designated responsibility for safeguarding. The Welfare Officer plays a key role supporting child-centred practice and ensuring robust safeguarding arrangements are in place in the club. We remain fully committed to continually improving our safeguarding practice and support to help ensure roller skating has a positive impact on all children in our sport.

It is the role of the Club Welfare Officer to:

- Assist the club to put in place policies and implementation plans for safeguarding and promoting welfare.
- Be the first point of contact for club staff and volunteers, children and parents for any issue concerning safeguarding, poor practice or potential/alleged abuse.
- Make sure that children and their parents know who they can talk to if they have a welfare concern and understand what action the organisation will take in response.
- Ensure that all incidents are correctly reported and all appropriate existing staff or volunteers have up-to-date Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) disclosures.
- Maintain local contact details for Children's Social Care Services, the Police and Local Authority Safeguarding panels.
- Take the lead on responding to information that may constitute a child protection concern. This includes assessing and clarifying the information and making referrals to statutory organisations as appropriate, consulting with and informing the relevant members of the organisation's management, in line with the organisation's safeguarding policy and procedures.
- Ensure that codes of conduct are in place for club staff and volunteers/officials, children and parents.
- Advise club management on safeguarding issues.
- Ensure confidentiality is maintained and information is only shared on a genuine 'need to know' basis.

Appointment to this role is subject to satisfactory vetting and barring checks.

Club Welfare Officers: Meirion Owen

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000 / cpsu@nspcc.org.uk

EXTERNAL SUPPORT SERVICE

County Durham Sport Safeguarding Team:

Designated Safeguarding Lead Officer: Becks Lippe - becks.lippe@countydurhamsport.com

Deputy Safeguarding Lead Officer: Joe Armstrong - joe.armstrong@countydurhamsport.com

Sport Welfare Coordinator: Rowena Carr – rowena.carr@countydurhamsport.com

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance, and other related documents.

- Staff, Coaches & Volunteers – Codes of Conduct & Phone Use Policy
- Codes of Conduct (for parents, careers, children and young people)
- Photography Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy

Suggested Review Date: After significant changes, or annually

Annual Review Date: 01/09/2026

Reviewed By: Tracy Stevens

Date: 01/09/2025