

Safeguarding Policy

General Policy

Port Solent Yacht Club is an Unincorporated Association of Members who are all adults. The Club operates without premises and is run entirely by volunteer adult members for Club Members. The Club does not employ coaching staff or deliver any form of training to young people or vulnerable adults and consequently PSYC has no legal obligations with regard to safeguarding. Nevertheless, the Club is committed to fostering a safe place for everyone.

The Club is committed to safeguarding everyone from risk of harm and ensuring their well-being, as far as reasonably possible. The Club recognises that the safety, welfare and safeguarding needs of anyone at risk are important and that any person, irrespective of their age, disability, race, religion or belief, marital status, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or social status, has a right to protection from discrimination, victimisation and abuse.

The Commodore or another committee member will act as the Club's Welfare Officer and be the point of contact for Members to report a safeguarding concern.

Appendix 1 sets out detailed examples of abuse which should be reported to the Club's Welfare Officer or a member of the Committee.

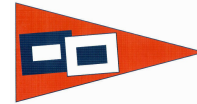
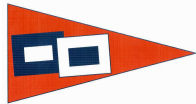
The Club is committed to minimising risk and supporting venues, events and individuals to deliver a safe, positive and enjoyable boating experience for everyone by creating a welcoming environment, both on and off the water, where everyone can have fun.

PSYC will:

- ✓ Provide appropriate links to the RYA Safeguarding guidance via the Club's website
- ✓ Ensure that the Club Welfare Officer's name and contact details are available to all members on the PSYC website.
- ✓ Respond swiftly and appropriately to all complaints and concerns about poor practice or suspected abuse, referring to the RYA and external agencies as necessary
- ✓ Report any concerns raised by members that involve RYA staff, volunteers and credential holders to the RYA Safeguarding Team.
- ✓ Regularly review its safeguarding procedures and practices in the light of experience, to take account of legislative, social or technological changes or where a change of procedure is required.
- ✓ Cooperate where necessary with multi-agency investigations and enquiries relating to serious case reviews involving children, young people and adults at risk, if there is an association with the Club

The PSYC Committee together with the Club Welfare officer are responsible for advising and making recommendations on safeguarding cases, in line with this Policy. This policy together with Appendix 1 will be reviewed by the PSYC committee at least every three years, or sooner if there are relevant changes to legislation or management.

Port Solent Yacht Club recognises that **EVERYONE** has the right to be safeguarded and we must **ALL** take responsibility to ensure it.



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Where there is a safeguarding concern / disclosure:

All Members and participants are responsible for raising safeguarding concerns / disclosures with the Club Welfare Officer or a member of the Committee.

A concern may involve the behaviour of an adult towards a child or another adult.

If a Member is concerned about the behaviour of another Member or child, it is **not** their responsibility to investigate further, but it is their responsibility to report it. If possible, record any information, including dates and times. Listen but do not ask questions and if the victim is at immediate risk, call the Police.

Members must not share or discuss their concerns with other Members as this could undermine any investigation and may cause unfounded rumours. Information must be passed directly to the Welfare Officer or Committee Member.

The Club Welfare Officer is responsible for assessing all safeguarding concerns / disclosures that are reported and collaborating with the PSYC Committee and if necessary, with the RYA Safeguarding Team to follow up as appropriate on a case-by-case basis, always prioritising the well-being of all those involved in the disclosure. Dependent on the concern / disclosure, a referral may be made to the relevant statutory or legal authority.

Advice

See link to RYA Safeguarding guidance

<https://www.rya.org.uk/about-us/policies/safeguarding/what-to-do-if-you-are-worried>

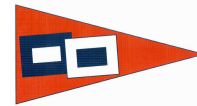
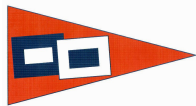
If the matter does not involve the club and a child is involved, the NSPCC Whistleblowing advice line can be contacted on 0800 028 0285 or help@nspcc.org.uk

If the victim is at immediate risk, call the Police

Police emergency: 999 or 112

Police non emergency: 101

NHS non emergency: 111



APPENDIX 1: Safeguarding Guidance - Examples of Abuse

Children, Young People and Adults at Risk

Neglect and Acts of Omission:

- Failing to ensure children or adults at risk are safe
- Exposing children or adults at risk to undue cold, heat or extreme weather conditions without ensuring adequate clothing or hydration
- Exposing children or adults at risk to unnecessary risk of injury by ignoring safe practice guidelines
- Failing to ensure the use of safety equipment
- Requiring young people or adults at risk to participate when injured or unwell

Physical Abuse:

- When someone deliberately hurts a child or adult at risk causing physical harm it is physical abuse.
- It may involve hitting, kicking, shaking, pushing, poisoning, burning, biting, scalding, drowning or any other method of causing non-accidental harm.

Sexual Abuse:

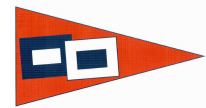
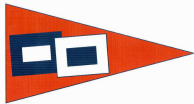
- Sexual abuse is when a child or adult at risk is forced or persuaded to take part in sexual activities. This may involve physical contact or non-contact activities and can happen online or offline.
- Children, adults at risk and young people may not always understand that they are being sexually abused.
- Where adults at risk are concerned, this includes rape, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, inappropriate looking or touching, sexual teasing or innuendo, sexual photography, subjection to pornography or witnessing sexual acts, indecent exposure and sexual assault, or sexual acts to which the victim has not consented or was pressured into consenting.

Emotional or Psychological Abuse:

- Emotional abuse is the emotional maltreatment of a child or adult at risk, which has a severe and persistent negative effect on the child's or person's emotional development.

In sport, emotional abuse may occur if:

- Children or adults at risk are subjected to repeated criticism, sarcasm, name-calling or racism
- A child or adult at risk is ignored or excluded
- Children or adults at risk feel pressure to perform to unrealistically high expectations
- Children or adults at risk are made to feel like their value or worth is dependent on their sporting success
- Where adults at risk are concerned, including threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation, or withdrawal from services or supportive networks



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Bullying:

- Bullying is when individuals or groups seek to harm, intimidate or coerce someone who is perceived to be vulnerable. It can involve people of any age and can happen anywhere or online.

Self-neglect:

- This covers a wide range of behaviour, but it can be broadly defined as neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health, or surroundings.

Modern Slavery:

- This encompasses slavery, human trafficking, forced labour, and domestic servitude.

Domestic Abuse:

- This includes psychological, physical, sexual, financial, and emotional abuse perpetrated by anyone within PSYC.

Discriminatory Abuse:

- Discrimination is abuse that can centre on a difference or perceived difference, particularly with respect to race, gender, disability, or any of the protected characteristics of the Equality Act.

Financial or Material Abuse:

- This includes theft, fraud, internet scamming, and coercion in relation to a vulnerable adult's financial affairs or arrangements, including in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions. It can also include the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions, or benefits.

Note: These are only examples of abuse that should give rise to safeguarding concerns. It is not an exhaustive list.