

Cymdeithas Achub Bywyd o'r Môr Cymru

Surf Life Saving Association of Wales

Surf Life Saving Association of Wales – Appendix 1 Coaches, Members and Volunteers Code of Conduct

- All SLSA Wales Coaches, Members and Volunteers and anyone working under the responsibility of SLSAW are required to familiarise themselves with the Surf Life Saving Wales - Child Protection Policy and all of its policies.
- All members who hold a role as defined as **regulated activity**, will be expected to undertake a DBS check and agree to sign up to the Update Service for Annual status checks *
- Every person that works with and has the responsibility of children will need to have attended or agree to attend the Safeguarding and Protecting Children course. The certificate and proof of attendance will be kept on file with the Club Safeguarding Officer and the Lead Safeguarding Officer.

* *further checks may be undertaken prior to Nipper / Junior camp, away events and where SLSA Wales deem it appropriate for the safeguarding of our young members*

For the purposes of this document a Young Person/ Members is any member who is 18 years of age and under

Coaches, Members and Volunteers must

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person and treat everyone equally within the content of their sport.
2. Place the well-being and safety of the young person above all else.
3. Follow all guidelines laid down by their sport's Governing Body and hold appropriate insurance cover.
4. Develop an appropriate working relationship with our young members, based on mutual trust and respect.
5. Not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
6. Encourage and guide our young members to accept responsibility for their own behaviour.
7. Hold up to date nationally recognised governing body coaching qualifications where applicable.
8. Ensure the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual.
9. Clarify at the outset with our young members, and where appropriate their parents, exactly what is expected of them and what our young members are entitled to expect from our coaches, members and volunteers.
10. Always promote the positive aspects of their sport e.g. fair play and never condone rule violations, bad sportsmanship / impeding of another competitor or the use of prohibited substances.
11. Consistently display high standards of behaviour.
12. Avoid exerting pressure on young members to compete when it is clear at that time that they do not wish to do so.

Good Practice

All SLSAW Coaches, Members and Volunteers should adhere to the following principles and actions



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1. Always work in an open environment (e.g. avoiding private or unobserved situations and encouraging open communication with no secrets).
2. Make the experience of Surf Lifesaving fun and enjoyable: promote fairness, **confront and deal with bullying immediately**.
3. Treat all young members equally and with respect and dignity.
4. Always put the welfare of the young person first, before winning.
5. Maintain a professional relationship with our young members
6. Avoid unnecessary physical contact with our young members. Where any form of manual/physical support is required it should be provided openly and with the consent of the young person. Physical contact can be appropriate so long as it is neither intrusive nor disturbing and the young persons' consent has been given.
7. Involve parents/carers wherever possible, e.g. where young members need to be supervised in changing rooms, encourage parents to take responsibility for their own young person. If groups have to be supervised in changing rooms always ensure parents, coaches, members and volunteers etc. work in pairs.
8. Never take a camera or device with a camera or video recording device into an area where young members are changing. Even if it is to capture images of your own children.
9. Request parental consent if club officials are required to transport young members in their cars.
10. Gain written parental consent for any significant travel arrangements e.g. overnight stays.
11. Ensure that if mixed teams are taken away, they should always be accompanied by a male and female member of staff.
12. Ensure that at away events adults should not enter a young persons' room or invite a young person/s to their rooms.
13. Be an excellent role model.
14. Always give enthusiastic and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism.
15. Recognise the developmental needs and capacity of the young person and do not risk sacrificing welfare in a desire for club or personal achievements. This means avoiding excessive training or competition and not pushing them against their will.
16. Secure written parental consent for the association/club to act in loco parentis, to give permission for the administration of emergency first aid or other medical treatment if the need arises.
17. Keep a written record of any injury that occurs, along with details of any treatment given.
18. Liaise with the club Safeguarding Officer to complete an incident form that you feel needs documenting where an incident has occurred either in training, competitions or camps etc.

Poor Practice

The following are regarded as poor practice and should be avoided by all Coaches, Members and Volunteers:

1. Unnecessarily spending excessive amounts of time alone with a young member /s away from others.
2. Taking a young member /s alone in a car on journeys, however short.
3. Taking our young members to your home where they will be alone with you.
4. Sharing a room with a young person.
5. Engaging in rough, physical or sexually provocative games, including horseplay.
6. Allow or engage in inappropriate touching of any form.
7. Allowing our young members or other adults in the vicinity of our young members to use inappropriate language unchallenged.
8. Failing to deal with offensive or inappropriate comments made by another adult or young member in the club in the vicinity of a young person.



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9. Making sexually suggestive comments to a young member, even in fun.
10. Reducing a young member to tears as a form of control.
11. Allow allegations made by a young member to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon.
12. Do things of a personal nature that the young member can do for themselves.
13. Display exclusion tendencies towards a young member /s e.g. fail to give balanced praise to all competitors, recognise achievements of some and not others, behave in a manner that makes the young member feel uncomfortable / excluded / singled out
14. Fail to provide equal fair treatment to all young members in your capacity as a leader e.g. team manager, trainer, coach, youth co-ordinator or nipper co-ordinator, member or volunteer

Where cases arise where it is impractical /impossible to avoid certain situation e.g. transporting a young person in your car, the tasks should only be carried out with the full understanding and consent of the parent/care and the young person involved. If during your care you accidentally hurt a young person, the young person seems distressed in any manner, appears to be sexually aroused by your actions and/or if the young person misunderstands or misinterprets something you have done, report any such incidents as soon as possible to another colleague and make a written note of it. Parents should also be informed of the incident.

I confirm that I have read and agree to abide by the SLSA Wales Code of Conduct and Good/Poor Practice Principles.

SLSA Wales Child Protection Policy 2019 can be found in the member's area under Public Documents Depository on the SLSA Wales website www.slsawales.org.uk

I have read and understood the content of this document and agree to abide by all of its principles.

Signature	Date:
Name (Please print):	D.O.B:
I am a member of: (Insert your club name) :	

1 copy of this form is to be retained by the club Safeguarding Officer

1 copy is to be **posted and not emailed** to the Lead Safeguarding Officer c/o
Julie Wisden
39 Bryn Henfaes
Broadlands
Bridgend
CF31 5EW

safeguarding@slsawales.org.uk

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