

TBYC Adult and Child Safeguarding Policy



Revised June 2023

This policy has been written with reference to national legislation and guidance, as well as RYA policy and protocols. This policy refers to anyone under the age of 18, defined as a child by the Children Act 1989¹ and vulnerable adult defined by the Care Act 2014². The policy applies to all Thorpe Bay Yacht Club (TBYC) employees, contractors, volunteers and members and should be read in conjunction with associated safeguarding procedures.

TBYC is committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults taking part in its activities from physical, sexual or emotional harm, neglect or bullying. We recognise that the safety, welfare and needs of the children and vulnerable adults are paramount and that any person, irrespective of age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual or gender identity or social status, has a right to protection from discrimination and abuse.

We will create a safe and welcoming environment, both on and off the water, where children and vulnerable adults can have fun and develop their skills and confidence. We will treat all people with respect, celebrate their achievements and listen to their views and experiences.

The responsibility for the health, welfare and safety of any children or vulnerable persons taking part or being involved in any activity at Thorpe Bay Yacht Club rests with the parent/guardian/carer, and not with the officers or members of Thorpe Bay Yacht Club

TBYC work closely with the RYA in adopting and implementing similar policies and procedures.

All members should be aware of the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

The Club Welfare Officer, staff and volunteers whose role brings them into regular contact with and those regularly instructing, coaching or supervising young people and vulnerable adults will also be asked to apply for an Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure, with Barred List check as appropriate.

TBYC:

- Recognises that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone, not just those working directly with children and vulnerable adults.
- Carefully recruits and selects all TBYC employees, contractors and volunteers in roles involving close contact with children and provides them with appropriate information or training.
- All members of the Club and all staff employed by the Club have a responsibility to report concerns to the appropriate person (Club Welfare Officer).
- Responds swiftly and appropriately to all complaints and concerns about poor practice or suspected abuse, referring to external agencies as necessary.
- Regularly reviews safeguarding procedures and practices in the light of experience or to take account of legislative, social or technological changes.
- It has a duty of care to safeguard all children & vulnerable persons involved or taking part in the Club's activities. It will ensure an environment where all feel secure. It will ensure that there are adults in the Club whom they can approach if they are worried.

¹ Applies in England and Wales. The relevant legislation in Scotland is the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, and in Northern Ireland the Children (Northern Ireland) order 1995

² A child is defined as any young person under the age of 18: The Children Act 1989, Safeguarding principles and guidelines also apply to 'vulnerable adults' or 'adults at risk' (Care Act 2014).

This policy will be reviewed by the TBYC General Committee annually.

The Club Welfare Officer and Commodore should be notified of all relevant concerns, allegations or complaints. Consideration will then be taken regarding further notification to the RYA.

CLUB WELFARE OFFICER

The Club Welfare Officer is:

Lesley Dye, tel. 07598249494, email lesleydye@sky.com

Good Practice

All members of the Club should follow the Safeguarding Procedures and guidance in association with this policy and abide by club rules, together with and the RYA Racing Charter contained in the Racing Rules of Sailing. Those working or volunteering with young people should be aware of the guidance on recognising abuse, referral procedures and Good Practice Guide (see *TBYC Safeguarding procedure and Appendices*).

Adults are requested respect the privacy of children and vulnerable adults especially when using the showers and changing rooms, especially at times when greater numbers of children are changing before or after junior/youth training or racing.

The Club will seek consent from parents/carers before taking photos or video of a child at an event or training session or publishing such images. Parents and spectators should be prepared to identify themselves if requested and state their purpose for photography/filming. If the Club publishes images of children, no identifying information other than names will be included. Any concerns about inappropriate or intrusive photography or the inappropriate use of images should be reported to the Club Designated Person.

Any member of the Club failing to comply with the Safeguarding Policy, procedures or any relevant Codes of Conduct may be subject to disciplinary action under Club Rules.

Revised and approved by the General Committee 26/06/2023