

Safeguarding Children Policy

Version	Author	Revision date	Summary of changes	Endorsed by Bridgend Automobile Club Committee
V 0.1		20/12/23	N/A	
This policy will be reviewed annually or when there is a legislative change or review due to lessons learnt or best practice guidance.				

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1. Introduction

Bridgend Automobile Club was formed to safely promote all forms of Motorsport in accordance with the regulations laid out by the governing body, Motorsport UK. The membership is comprised of adults and juniors to compete and/or volunteer at events. We may also invite other motor clubs to join us at events and spectators occasionally watch from beyond the perimeter of the venue.

Bridgend Motor Club recognise that we have both a moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children. We are committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected, valued and supported to participate at all levels within the sport to the best of their abilities.

This policy and the associated procedures apply to all who participate in our events, including volunteers and spectators.

A separate policy and procedure is in place to promote the safeguarding of Adults at Risk.

2. Policy aims

This policy aims to:

- Clearly demonstrate our commitment to safeguarding children and young people.
- Promote consistent good practice that delivers a safe and positive environment for children and young people.
- Provide all staff and volunteers with the necessary information to enable them to meet their safeguarding responsibilities as set out in Government legislation and guidance.

3. Policy principles

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children, regardless of age, ability, culture, race, language, religious beliefs, sexual or gender identity, have equal rights to protection.
- Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. All club members have a responsibility to respond positively in response to any concerns, suspicion or disclosure that may suggest a child is at risk of harm.
- Children, volunteers, and staff involved in child protection issues will receive appropriate support.
- Staff and volunteers classed as being in regulated activity with children will be subject to appropriate safer recruitment checks.
- Bridgend Automobile Club's Safeguarding Officer will receive appropriate training opportunities via Motorsport UK to ensure they can make informed and confident responses to safeguarding issues.

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 Bridgend Automobile Club

The club will do their utmost to employ sufficient resources to ensure that the commitment to safeguarding is delivered and that children and young people are provided with a safe and positive environment in which to enjoy and participate in motorsport. Bridgend Automobile Club will ensure that the policies and procedures are publicised, promoted and distributed to all relevant audiences.

4.2 Safeguarding Officer

The Safeguarding officer is responsible for ensuring that the organisation continues to meet its statutory duties in relation to safeguarding. This includes:

- Continuing to develop safeguarding practices in conjunction with Motorsport UK and affiliated groups with the aim of preventing harm;
- Ensuring that staff, volunteers, parents, children and young people understand their roles in recognising, responding to and reporting allegations of harm;
- reporting safeguarding concerns, in conjunction with statutory agencies where appropriate/required;

4.3 Further information

- Bridgend Automobile Club, whilst being a registered club with Motorsport UK, must have a nominated Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) licenced by Motorsport UK who is in receipt of an Enhanced DBS (or equivalent) check. The name of the CSO must be publicised to members of the club.
- The Club must also have safeguarding policies and procedures in place which refer to local safeguarding arrangements, statutory agencies, and provide details of the Local Authority Designated Officer.

5. Other Relevant Documents

- Safeguarding Children procedure
- Safeguarding Adults Procedure
- Case Management Procedure
- Guidance to Protect Children and Prevent Harm

- **Appendix A - Terminology**
- **Children and Young People** includes everyone under the age of 18.
- **Safeguarding** refers to:
 - protecting children from harm,
 - preventing abusive or neglectful behaviours, actions or practices,
 - promoting the welfare of children.
- **Safeguarding Concern** can be used to refer to any alleged or suspected safeguarding incident or report ranging from poor practice to abuse.
- **Child protection** refers to the processes undertaken by statutory agencies to protect children who have been identified as suffering, or being at risk of suffering, significant harm.
- **Person in a Position of Trust** refers to a person who has authority, responsibility or influence over another person. This might be a coach, mentor or other adult whose role gives them power over a child or young person.
- **Motorsport UK Recognised Group ('Group')** (a defined term in the General Regulations) includes all recognised clubs, recognised groups, regional centres of Motor Groups and recognised Regional Associations.
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- **Motorsport Group Activity** is all activity carried out under the auspices of Motorsport UK-Recognised Groups.
- **Participants** means any person attending a venue licenced by Motorsport UK for a Motorsport UK Permitted Event and / or involved in motor sport falling under the territory of Motorsport UK whether or not they are Motorsport UK members.
- **CSO** refers to the Club Safeguarding Officer a designated person within a member Group or Club.
- **Parent** refers to birth parents and other adults who are in a parenting role, for example step-parents, foster carers and legal guardians.

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- **Appendix B - Safeguarding legislation and guidance**
- The following safeguarding legislation and guidance has been considered when drafting this policy:
- Children Act 1989, Children Act 2004
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Criminal Justice Act 1988
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- SEN Code of practice guidance 2015
- Equality Act 2010
- Serious Crime Act 2015 Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2015
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- What to do if you're worried a child is being abused 2015
- Modern Slavery Act 2015
- General Data Protection Regulations 2018

Government DBS Eligibility Guidance 2020