**Dorchester RIOT Running Club Safeguarding Policy**

Introduction

These policies and procedures outline what safeguarding is and what to do if you have a

concern. These policies and procedures apply to all Dorchester RIOT Running Club activities including

its own activities aimed at adults and events which may also be open to children.

We all have a responsibility to safeguard adults who are experiencing, or are at risk of,

abuse and neglect; and to safeguard children.

**1.Policy statement**

Dorchester RIOT Running Club is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive

environment for all people involved in running. It accepts its responsibility to assist in the

welfare of all people and to safeguard them from poor practice, abuse and bullying.

All individuals within the organisation - members/volunteers/coaches/officers - have a role

and responsibility to help ensure the safety and welfare of members and guests.

Athlete Code of Conduct: <https://www.britishathletics.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/safeguarding/Code-of-Conduct-for-Athletes-2020.pdf> (Appendix 1)

Club Code of Conduct: <https://www.britishathletics.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/safeguarding/Code-of-Conduct-Club-2020.pdf> (Appendix 2)

The club accepts that we are required to fulfil our duty of care, which means that we must do

everything that can be reasonably expected of us to help safeguard and protect people from

harm, and to act when we suspect that someone is being harmed, or is at risk of harm.

**2. Safeguarding of Adults**

The club has adopted the guidance of UK Athletics, Safeguarding Adults Policy and procedures found here:

<http://www.uka.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Safeguarding-Adults-Policy-and-Guidance-Procedures-2020.pdf>

and strongly endorses that everyone who takes part in athletics is entitled to participate

in an enjoyable and safe environment.

These policies and procedures apply to any adult who is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse

or neglect, or who is unable to protect themselves from such risk.

Safeguarding adults is underpinned by the Care Act 2014 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

Types of abuse suffered by adults identified in the Care Act 2014 are: Physical; Sexual;

Psychological/Emotional/Mental; Financial and material; Neglect and act of omission;

Discriminatory; Organisational; Modern Day Slavery; Domestic Violence; and Self Neglect.

Other types of harm that adults may experience include: Cyber Bullying; Forced Marriage;

Female Genital Mutilation; Mate Crime; and Radicalisation.

**3. Safeguarding of Children**

A child is defined as anyone under the age of 18 years of age.

The club is committed to promoting best practice when working with children, and to ensure that

everyone involved in the club understands their responsibilities to safeguard children from harm and

abuse. This means taking action to report any concerns about a child’s welfare. Concerns should be

reported immediately to the Dorchester RIOT Welfare Officer. It is not the responsibility of the club

to determine whether or not abuse has taken place this is the domain of the child protection

professionals.

Dorchester RIOT Running Club has a policy allowing juniors aged 12-18 to run when accompanied by

a parent or guardian, as long as they run together in a group led by a qualified Leader in Running

Fitness, who will have a current DBS check and have undergone safeguarding training.

Please see the full policy here:

ADD IN LINK TO 12-18 POLICY

The club has adopted the guidance of UK Athletics, Safeguarding and Protecting children in Athletics Policy and procedures found here:

<http://www.uka.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Safeguarding-Children-Policy-2020-June-updated-version.pdf>

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2017) identifies four main types of child abuse

-Physical abuse - hitting, shaking, throwing, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child

- Emotional abuse - causing severe and persistent adverse effects on the child’s

emotional development, conveying to a child or children that they are worthless or

unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It

also includes bullying, cyber-bullying, frightening, exploitation or corruption of children.

- Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, whether

or not the child is aware of what is happening. This may include a wide range of contact

or non-contact activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways,

or grooming and may be perpetrated by males or females including other children.

- Neglect - the persistent failure to meet a child’s basic physical and/or psychological

needs.

**4. Training and communication**

We want to make sure that all of our volunteers and officers have the right skills and qualities

to create a safe environment. The club will review the safeguarding policy annually and

ensure that it is updated with any relevant legislation, policies and procedural changes.

All club officers (committee members and those who frequently lead running groups) will be

required to read these policies and procedures and undertake basic safeguarding training.

The club will make its Safeguarding Policy and Procedures available to all officers,

volunteers, members and partner organisations.

**5. Use of Photography**

There is no legal power to prevent photography or filming in a public place. However, certain

individuals may use published photographs or visit sporting events to take inappropriate

photographs or video footage of adults and this could include children or adults at risk.

During some club events, an official photographer may be present. In these circumstances,

Dorchester RIOT Running Club will:

- Inform athletes and parents that a photographer will be in attendance, and inform them

of the intended publication of films or photographs

- Provide suitable opportunity to record requests not to publish images, and ensure as far

as reasonably practicable that published images do not include any person who is the

subject of such a request

- Obtain assurance from the photographer that any photographic images taken and used

will be stored securely, and destroyed when no longer required for the purpose or

timeframe agreed

- Obtain assurance from the photographer that images of people are not taken other than

when they are in suitable dress

- Not allow unsupervised access to children or adults at risk or one to one photo sessions

- Inform athletes and parents how to act on any safeguarding concerns at the event, and

act on any such concern.

Whether or not an official photographer is present, it is difficult for the club to prevent casual

photography from taking place. People attending such events will be advised that family

members and their friends are welcome to take photos at the event for their own family

records only and these should not be published or shared on any social media.

Publishing data and images:

- Where we seek to publish an image not subject to the general restrictions above, we will

ask for the explicit permission of children and their carers to take and use their image.

The Photography consent form for children will be sent to the parent/guardian prior to their child’s

first run with the club.

- We will never publish personal details (email addresses, telephone numbers, addresses

etc) of a child, young person or adult at risk.

- It will be assumed that all adult club members have consented to the use and publication of their

images on weekly club activities and club events unless there is reason to believe they would refuse

consent or lack the capacity to give it.

6. What to do if you have concerns

Club members, committee members and run leaders are not expected to be an expert in

recognition of a safeguarding concern; however, all adults working, volunteering and

participating have a duty of care to be vigilant and respond appropriately to suspicions of

poor practice, abuse or bullying. They should also respond to any indication of abuse that

may be occurring outside of the club setting.

This does not mean that it is your responsibility to decide whether a concern what constitutes poor

practice, abuse or bullying but it is your responsibility to report your concerns to the club

Welfare Officer or committee Chairman. These concerns may arise due to:

- An individual disclosing that they are being abused

- The behaviour of someone towards a child or an adult at risk

- A number of behavioural indicators observed over a period of time

The Welfare Officer or Chairman will take advice as appropriate on the need to refer the

matter to the relevant authorities. This may include advice from England Athletics or the

local safeguarding authorities. If in doubt, their default position must be to report the

concern.

If you cannot contact someone within the club or feel that your concerns are not being dealt

with properly you can contact:

**IMMEDIATE RISK**-Crime/immediate risk- Call Police or Social Services

Medical-Call an ambulance

**Adults at Risk**

Dorset safeguarding adult’s team

Report abuse of an adult (Safeguarding)-If you know someone is being abused, or think they may be, call:

Residents in the Dorset Council area call 01305 221016

Email: adultaccess@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Out of hours -Social Services 01305 858250

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/care-and-support-for-adults/dorset-safeguarding-adults-board/reporting-a-concern.aspx>

**Children at Risk**

Dorset safeguarding children team- Children's Advice and Duty Service (ChAD)

Single point of contact for safeguarding concerns

Tel: 01305 228866

Dorset Out of Hours Service 01305 228558

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/children-families/worried-about-a-child.aspx>

**Local Family Support Team**:

Dorchester locality

Email: dorchesterlocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 01305224220

**NSPCC helpline**

If you're worried about a child, even if you're unsure, contact our professional counsellors for help, advice and support.

Call us or email help@nspcc.org.uk.

0808 800 5000

18 or under?Under 18’s Childline offers free, confidential advice and support whatever your worry, whenever you need help.

0800 1111

Appendix 1 **UKA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES**

Codes of Conduct Reviewed January 2020

Code of Conduct for Athletes

As a responsible athlete you will

• Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every athlete, coach, technical official and others

involved in athletics and treat everyone equally.

• Uphold the same values of sportsmanship off the field as you do when engaged in athletics

• Cooperate fully with others involved in the sport such as coaches, technical officials, team

managers, doctors, physiotherapists, sport scientists and representatives of the governing

body in the best interests of the yourself and other athletes

• Consistently promote positive aspects of the sport such as fair play and never condone rule

violations or the use of prohibited or age-inappropriate substances

• Anticipate and be responsible for your own needs including being organised, having the

appropriate equipment and being on time

• Inform your coach of any other coaching that you are seeking or receiving

• Always thank the coaches and officials who enable you to participate in athletics

As a responsible Athlete, when participating in or attending any athletics activities,

including training/coaching sessions and competition events you will:

• Act with dignity and display courtesy and good manners towards others

• Avoid swearing and abusive language and irresponsible behaviour including behaviour that

is dangerous to yourself or others, acts of violence, bullying, harassment and physical and

sexual abuse

• Challenge inappropriate behaviour and language by others

• Never engage in any inappropriate or illegal behaviour

• Avoid destructive behaviour and leave athletics venues as you find them

• Not carry or consume alcohol to excess and/or illegal substances.

• Avoid carrying any items that could be dangerous to yourself or others excluding athletics

equipment used in the course of your athletics activity

In addition, athletes, especially young athletes and vulnerable adults, should follow

these guidelines on safe participation in athletics

• Notify a responsible adult if you have to go somewhere (why, where and when you will

return)

• Do not respond if someone seeks private information unrelated to athletics such as

personal information, home life information

• Strictly maintain boundaries between friendship and intimacy with a coach or technical

official

• Never accept lifts in cars or invitations into homes on your own without the prior knowledge

and consent of your parent/carer

• Use safe transport or travel arrangements

• Report any accidental injury, distress, misunderstanding or misinterpretation to your

parents/carers and club Welfare officer as soon as possible.

• Report any suspected misconduct by coaches or other people involved in athletics to the

club welfare officer as soon as possible

Appendix 2 **UKA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETIC CLUBS**

Athletics Welfare Policy and Procedures-Codes of Conduct Reviewed January 2020

As a responsible Athletics Club you will:

• Adopt national welfare policies and procedures, adhere to the codes of conduct and

respond to any suspected breaches in accordance with the Welfare Procedures

• Appoint a welfare officer, preferably two, one male and one female, and ensure that they

are provided with appropriate training to act as a first point of contact for concerns about

welfare issues

• Ensure that all staff and volunteers operating within the club environment hold the

appropriate qualifications and have undertaken the appropriate checks e.g.

CRB//Disclosure Scotland, licences, qualifications such as massage, sports nutrition etc

• Ensure that coaches, technical officials and club officers attend recommended training in

welfare and safeguarding and protecting children as appropriate.

• Liaise appropriately with parents/persons with parental responsibility, officials, coaches,

sports scientists, national governing bodies and other relevant people/organisations to

ensure that good practice is maintained

• Ensure that information is available at the club and to all club officers, team managers,

coaches and officials regarding contact details for local social services, the police and the

NSPCC or Children First in Scotland

• Ensure that club officers and volunteers always act responsibly and set an example to

others including younger members

• Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every club member and others involved in athletics

and treat everyone equally.

• Consistently promote positive aspects of the sport such as fair play and never condone rule

violations or the use of prohibited or age-inappropriate substances

• Challenge inappropriate behaviour and language by others

• Place the welfare and safety of the athlete above other considerations including the

development of performance

• Report any suspected misconduct by club officials, coaches, technical officials or other

people involved in athletics to the Club, Regional, National or UKA welfare officer as soon

as possible