



# Tay Rowing Club Child Protection Policies May 2024

# Child Protection Policies

## Purpose of Document

The purpose of this document is to set out the Child Protection Policy in place at Tay Rowing Club.

## Child Protection Policy

Tay Rowing Club (TRC) is governed by Scottish Rowing - <http://scottish-rowing.org.uk>. TRC operates on the basis of acknowledging the rights of children under child protection legislation and adheres to the Scottish Rowing Child Protection Policy <http://www.scottish-rowing.org.uk/index.php/about-us/safeguarding>

The aim of the Club's Child Protection Policy is to promote good practice by:

- Providing Children with appropriate safety and protection whilst they are active within the club
- Make the sport of rowing fun, enjoyable and to promote fair play
- Recognising the developmental needs and capacities of children and avoid giving them excessive training or competition
- Giving enthusiastic and constructive feedback
- Working in an open environment
- Understanding that all children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity has the right to protection from abuse
- Requiring and encouraging all members to adopt and abide by this policy along with all Scottish Rowing recommendations on Child Protection issues
- Allowing all Club Members to make informed and confident responses to specific Child Protection Issues and to report any concerns about abuse.

## Point of Contact:

Welfare Officer: Paige Klinkman, [welfare@tayrowingclub.com](mailto:welfare@tayrowingclub.com)

## Responding to suspicions or allegations

TRC will fully support and protect anyone who in good faith reports concerns regarding Child Abuse or inappropriate behaviour. Anyone wishing to raise a concern should document the incident they wish to report in as much detail as possible, including the time(s) and date(s) it occurred, and who was involved. This should be shared with the Welfare Officer who will advise on next steps.

TRC accepts that there are generally four categories of abuse, however, in some cases, negative discrimination and bullying can have severe and adverse effects on a child. TRC is committed to protecting children from all forms of abuse.

## Emotional Abuse and Emotional Abuse in Sport

The persistent emotional ill-treatment of a child, conveying that they are worthless, unloved, inadequate or valued only insofar as to meet the needs of another person.

## Tay Rowing: Child Protection Policies

In sport this may include the persistent failure to show self-respect, build self-esteem and confidence possibly caused by:

- Exposure to humiliating or aggressive behaviour and tone
- Failure to intervene where self-confidence and worth are challenged or undermined.

## Neglect and Neglect in Sport

The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs.

In sport this could mean the lack of care, guidance, supervision or protection caused by:

- Exposure to unnecessary cold or heat
- Exposure to unhygienic conditions, lack of food, water or medical care.
- Non-intervention in bullying or taunting.

## Physical Abuse and Physical Abuse in Sport

Physical abuse may involve the actual or attempted physical injury to a child including hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, drowning, suffocating or otherwise harming them.

In sport this may include bodily harm caused by lack of care and attention or knowledge that may be caused by:

- Over training or dangerous training practices
- Over playing of an athlete
- Failure to undertake a risk assessment of physical limits or pre-existing medical conditions
- Administering, condoning or failure to intervene in drug abuse.

## Sexual Abuse and Sexual Abuse in Sport

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities whether or not they are aware or consent to what is happening. The activities may include physical or non-physical acts.

Sexual abuse in Sport may include contact and non-contact activities and may be caused by:

- Exposure to sexually explicit language, jokes or pornographic materials
- Inappropriate touching
- Having any sexual activity or relationship
- Creating opportunities to access children's bodies.

## Negative Discrimination

Children may experience harassment or negative discrimination because of their culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity. Although not in itself a category of abuse, TRC considers that this discriminatory behaviour be classed as Emotional Abuse and will be dealt with as such.

## Bullying

## Tay Rowing: Child Protection Policies

TRC has a responsibility to intervene in all cases of bullying and recognises that not all bullying will be adult/child but that young people can also be responsible for abuse and bullying of each other.

## Tay Rowing: Child Protection Policies

Bullying can take many forms and is usually repeated over a period of time and may include:

- Physical, e.g. hitting, kicking, theft
- Verbal including, teasing, racist remarks, spreading rumours, threats or name calling
- Emotional, e.g. isolating a child from activities or social acceptance of the peer group.

## Reporting Abuse

It is not the responsibility of any club member to take responsibility or to decide whether or not child abuse has taken place. There is, however, a responsibility to act on any concerns and as such TRC has fully implemented Scottish Rowing's responding to disclosures policy.