

Surf Life Saving Association of Wales - Appendix 3

Youth Code of Conduct

SLSA Wales is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members. The club believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others.

Therefore, our younger members should be encouraged to be open at all times and to discuss any concerns or worries that they may have about any aspect of the club and their participation in the club with their clubs Safeguarding Officer or any other trusted adult they feel happy to talk to.

Sports clubs for young people should offer a positive experience where they can learn new things in a safe, encouraging, inclusive and positive environment.

Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated. All instances of bullying will be dealt with immediately and may result in a suspension of anyone found to be bullying while an investigation is carried out. This will be done without prejudice and in the best interests of the child.

As a member of this stated club, you are expected to abide by the following Youth code of practice:

Let people know

Let your coach know if you cannot attend training.

You must let coach know if you have sustained an injury before attending training to assess whether it is safe for you to join the session.

If you see something that does not look safe you must tell a coach.

If you see any instances of bullying you must tell a coach.

If you feel unwell you must tell a coach.

You must tell your club safeguarding officer, coach or trusted adult if something doesn't feel right or makes you feel uncomfortable

Respect

Keep within the defined boundary of the training / coaching area and listen to all instructions from the coach/s.

Play within the rules and respect the officials and their decisions.

Show respect to other youth members/leaders and show team spirit.

Respect opponents of other clubs and behave in a sporting manner at all times representing your club well. Be gracious in defeat.

Take care of and respect equipment owned by their club and other club members.

Members should keep to agreed timings for training and competitions or inform their coach or team manager if they are going to be late.

Safety

Comply with the rules of the competition and its events and not resort to infringements that may cause harm or injury to a fellow competitor.

Members must wear suitable kit for training and competition.

Under 18 members are not allowed to smoke on club premises or whilst representing the club

Under 18 members are not allowed to attend a training session under the influence of alcohol or drugs or consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on the club premises or whilst representing the club.

Refrain from bullying or persistent use of rough and dangerous play

You must not do something that is too hard for you to do safely and beyond your capabilities.



Being Equal and Fair

You must treat everyone equally.

Be loyal and give your friends a second chance and welcome new members.

Be supportive and committed to other team members.

Don't get involved in inappropriate peer pressure or push others into something they do not want to do.

All members must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background or religious beliefs or sexual identity.

Refrain from the use of bad language or racial/ sectarian references. This includes bullying using new technologies like Facebook, WhatsApp chatrooms or texting.

Challenge or report the bullying of your peers.

Social Media and Phones

Youth members must not take their mobile phones or other such devices that have camera or recording capabilities into changing areas for the purpose of taking images to cause embarrassment, humiliation or exposure to another member. **This behaviour is dealt with very seriously.**

You can only get in touch with your coach by mobile phone if the coach has said it is okay, and she or he will check that your parents are happy for you to contact them by phone. The conversation should be about sport.

Be aware that Members who hold a role in a position of trust as a coach / instructor to under 18 year old members should never add, follow or interact with children in their organisation on any personal social media accounts.

Understand that SLSA Wales has a firm policy on social media behaviour that sets out how we expect children and adults to behave, including online.

Members should not put photos of themselves, or of other people in their sport on internet sites without express permission.

Children/young people have the right to:

1. Be safe and happy in their chosen activity.
2. Be listened to.
3. Be respected and treated fairly.
4. Privacy.
5. Enjoy their sport in a protective, encouraging environment.
6. Be referred to professional help if needed.
7. Be protected from abuse by other member or out-side sources.
8. Participate on an equal basis, appropriate to their ability.
9. Experience competition and the desire to win.
10. Be believed and ask for help

Any misdemeanours and general misbehaviour will be addressed by the immediate coach and reported verbally to the designated person within the club to be noted, with parents being informed at all stages.

Persistent misbehaviour may result in suspension or dismissal from the club/sport/organisation.

SLSA Wales Child Protection Policy 2023 - Version controlled V7 2/9/2023