

# Royal Torbay Yacht Club



## Safeguarding Policy

### Policy Statement April 2026

The Royal Torbay Yacht Club is committed to safeguarding children taking part in its activities from physical, sexual or emotional harm, neglect or bullying. We recognise that the safety, welfare and needs of the child are paramount and that any child, 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.

The Royal Torbay Yacht Club takes all reasonable steps to ensure that, through safe recruitment, appropriate operating procedures and training, it offers a safe and fun environment to children taking part in its events and activities.

For the purposes of this policy anyone under the age of 18 should be considered as a child. All members of the Club should be aware of the policy.

#### **Club Welfare Officer**

The Club Welfare Officer is:

Helen Brown

[safeguarding@rtyc.org](mailto:safeguarding@rtyc.org)

07795467085

#### **Staff and Volunteers**

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

#### **Good Practice**

All members of the Club should follow the good practice guidelines and agree to abide by the Club Code of Conduct (*see RTYC Document 1*) 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 (*RTYC Appendix B*).

Adults are requested not to enter the showers and changing rooms at times when children are changing before or after junior/youth training or racing. If this is unavoidable it is **essential** that they are accompanied by another adult.

The Club will seek written 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 **first** names will be included. Any concerns about inappropriate or intrusive photography or the inappropriate use of images should be reported to the Club Welfare Officer.

#### **Further Information**

Further information can be found on the club website at <https://rtyc.org/club-documents/> and the RYA website at [Safeguarding | About the RYA](#)

#### **Concerns**

Anyone who is concerned about a young member's or participant's welfare, either outside the sport or within the Club, should inform the Club Welfare Officer immediately, in strict confidence. The Club Welfare Officer will follow the attached procedures (*see RTYC Appendix E*)