

Gramp Child Welfare Guidelines

This document clarifies the British Orienteering child welfare policy, as set out in *O-Safe* (Sept 2007) and the Scottish Orienteering Child Protection Policy (Jan 2009). In cases of uncertainty O-Safe and SOCPP supersedes the text in this document, and the SOA or BOF Lead Child Welfare Officer can resolve conflicts. Grampian Orienteers adheres to BOF and SOA child welfare policy.

In general, it is considered that 'inappropriate behaviour' needs no further explanation – it is clear that this involves grooming, sexual contact, racism, mental or physical abuse, but can include other behaviour. In addition to avoiding inappropriate behaviour, no person involved in club business/ events should put themselves or any other person in a suspect position or that in which accusations could be made. The following two lists for prohibited actions and recommended practice are BOF policy. Young people/ children are terms used interchangeably and refer to under 18s. The same principles apply to vulnerable adults.

Grampian Orienteers engage in competitive activities with both adults and young people. Competitors, planners, controllers, organisers, officials and other adults have social contact with each other in a public environment, but would not normally have substantial contact with young people. Coaching takes place within competitive events and at specific training events (may be junior specific), and the qualified coaches and other adults who perform this role will be Disclosed (i.e. criminal records checked). Adults involved in related activities that have substantial contact with young people (e.g. transport/ accompaniment of juniors to competitions) will also be Disclosed. If the contact is only with family members no Disclosure is required.

Prohibited actions:

- Acting as a coach or other official with substantial access to young persons, without being Disclosed to the club Child Protection Officer within 3 years, or if specifically prohibited
- Share a room or travel with a young person (1 to 1)
- Allow young people to use inappropriate language without challenge, or make accusations without recording or acting upon them
- Physical contact for coaching etc. without obtaining the appropriate parental consent
- Use of a young persons image without their and their parents permission

Recommended practice:

- If a 1 to 1 situation is required, for coaching, first aid etc., or changing rooms are being supervised it is recommended another responsible adult is present,
- Be a good role model – don't smoke or drink in front of young people
- Don't use a young persons name with their image
- Act if you have any concerns regarding the behaviour of any person towards a young person

Sean O'Sullivan, Grampian Orienteers Child Protection Officer