



SWIM BIKE RUN - SAFE

British Triathlon and the Home Nations Safeguarding and Protecting Adults Policy



Policy Statement

British Triathlon and the Home Nations are firmly committed to creating and maintaining a triathlon environment for adults which is safe, positive, enjoyable and which promotes their welfare and safety.

This policy is built upon our core values:

- we are people centred
- we are ambitious
- we are inclusive
- we do what's right

This policy sets out our belief in and commitment to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of all adults involved in our sport from abuse and harm, particularly those deemed at risk. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or harm, while at the same time making sure that the adult's welfare and wellbeing is promoted.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the British Triathlon and the Home Nations Safeguarding Procedures, the British Triathlon and the Home Nations Safeguarding Standards and Best Practice and the British Triathlon and the Home Nations Disciplinary Policy.

Policy Principles

- Safeguarding and protecting the welfare of adults from abuse and harm is everybody's responsibility.
- Adults have the right to protection from the risk of, or actual abuse and harm, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.
- The welfare of adults at risk or adults suffering from abuse and harm will be put first and the adult actively supported to communicate their views and the outcomes they want to achieve. Those views and wishes will be respected and supported unless there are overriding reasons not to.
- We understand that health, wellbeing, ability, disability and need for care and support can affect an adult's resilience and because of these some adults may have an increased vulnerability to abuse and harm and may need additional safeguards to be kept safe.

Policy Scope

This policy applies to everyone involved in British Triathlon and Home Nation governed activity, whether or not they are members. This policy also applies while participating or competing at events, competitions or triathlon activity in England, Scotland, Wales and internationally.

This policy applies to all adults (aged 18 years or older).

We recognise that adults at risk may need additional safeguards to be kept safe. We will act in accordance with the relevant safeguarding adult's legislation and with local statutory safeguarding procedures to safeguard adults who meet the definition of an adult at risk as defined in the relevant home nations legislation (England – Care Act 2014; Wales - Social Services and Well Being Act 2014; Scotland - Adult Support and Protection Act 2007). Please see Appendix 1 for more information.

British Triathlon and the Home Nation Responsibilities

In relation to those involved in British Triathlon and Home Nation governed activity:

- British Triathlon and each Home Nation will appoint lead safeguarding officers and non-executive directors to manage the safeguarding adults' programme across Britain and the Home Nations.
- Raise safeguarding adult standards and awareness through the provision of education, training, campaigns, guidance, policies, standards and procedures.
- Ensure everyone is aware of their safeguarding adults' responsibilities and understands the procedures of what to do and who to contact if they have a concern relating to the welfare or wellbeing of an adult.
- Ensure all concerns about adults are taken seriously.
- Take action according to safeguarding principles, responding to concerns promptly and in proportion to the risk of harm.
- Develop a culture which empowers the reporting of concerns about adults without fear of victimisation or reprisal.
- Record, monitor and safely store confidential information of all safeguarding adult concerns to continuously improve the safeguarding programme across Britain and the Home Nations.
- Share information about anyone found to be a risk or a potential risk to adults with the appropriate bodies and cooperate with the relevant authorities in taking action to safeguard an adult.
- Manage the British Triathlon and Home Nation Safeguarding positive criminal records check procedure and notify the relevant statutory bodies of anyone who is removed, or removes themselves, from working in regulated activity.

Abuse and Harm

The Ann Craft Trust identifies a number of types of [abuse](#) that may affect adults

[Self-neglect](#)

[Domestic Abuse](#)

[Organisational](#)

Modern Slavery

Discriminatory

Physical

Sexual

Neglect and Acts of

Emotional or Psychological

Cyber Bullying

Omission

Radicalisation

Mate Crime

Forced Marriage

In addition to abuse, poor practice (which can also be known as low level concerns) is not acceptable and must be responded to appropriately when identified and, if proportionate to the risk of harm, reported to the British Triathlon or Home Nation Safeguarding Team.

Poor practice is behaviour:

- that may be on the fringe of abuse and/or if repeated, would amount to abuse.
- which may not be immediately dangerous or intentionally harmful but nevertheless harms or places an adult at risk of harm or has a negative effect on their welfare and/or safety.
- that indicates an individual may pose an actual or risk of harm to an adult.
- that is inconsistent or contrary with the British Triathlon and Home Nation codes of ethics, practices and safeguarding standards, requirements and guidance.

Mental capacity and decision making

UK law assumes that all people over the age of 16 have the ability to make their own decisions, unless it has been proven that they can't. It also gives individuals the right to make any decision that they need to make even if others consider them to be unwise.

Unless a formal assessment of the adult has been made by a qualified practitioner (e.g. Doctor, mental health nurse) British Triathlon and the Home Nations will assume the adult has capacity to make their own decisions.

Where an adult is unable to make their own decisions, there may be times when a safeguarding decision by British Triathlon or a Home Nation needs to be made on behalf an adult in an emergency. This could include:

- Sharing information about safeguarding concerns with people that can help protect them.
- Stopping them being in contact with the person causing harm.

Any such decisions will be made in accordance with relevant legislation regarding circumstances in which decisions can be made on behalf of an adult who is unable to make decisions for themselves (England and Wales - The Mental Capacity Act 2005, Scotland - Adults with Incapacity Act 2000) and in accordance with the principles set out in that legislation.

Responding to a Safeguarding Concern

Everyone has a responsibility to take appropriate steps to ensure that concerns regarding the risk of and/or actual abuse or harm are taken seriously and responded to appropriately and reported, even if it may not have occurred recently.

If you think an adult is in immediate danger or requires medical attention, you should call the emergency services.

Contacts

British Triathlon Lead Safeguarding Officer: 07793 647578 | concern@britishtriathlon.org

Triathlon England Lead Safeguarding Officer: 07384214726 | concern@britishtriathlon.org

Welsh Triathlon Lead Safeguarding Officer: 0300 300 3128 / 07587 038156 |
welfare@welshtriathlon.org

Triathlon Scotland Lead Wellbeing & Protection Officer: 07860 716 418 |
welfare@triathlonscotland.org

Emergency Services: 999

Further useful contact details are included in Appendix 2.

All safeguarding adult concerns will be taken extremely seriously and once reported they will be triaged and managed through the British Triathlon and the Home Nations Safeguarding Procedures or Disciplinary Policy.

Confidentiality

All safeguarding concerns and allegations will be dealt with confidentially by British Triathlon and the Home Nations, shared only on a need-to-know basis, not only to maintain the privacy of the individuals involved but also to ensure that evidence or any investigation is not compromised.

Anyone involved in a safeguarding concern or allegation should similarly ensure they maintain high levels of confidentiality. There may be circumstances where an individual raising a safeguarding concern or allegation does not wish to be named. It is not possible for British Triathlon and the Home Nations to assure anonymity, as in some circumstances individuals will need to be named (for example, where it is necessary to carry out a fair process under the Safeguarding Procedures).

In certain situations, the British Triathlon and the Home Nations Safeguarding Teams may be required to share information with statutory agencies and/or other relevant organisations where it is necessary and proportionate to prevent or manage the risk of harm. The consent of the adult will usually be obtained first, and if they do not wish information to be shared that will usually be respected unless there are over-riding reasons for sharing information.

The circumstances when British Triathlon and the Home Nations Safeguarding Teams need to share information without the adult's consent include those where:

- it is not safe to contact the adult to gain their consent – i.e. it might put them or the person making contact at further risk.
- we believe they or someone else is at risk, including children.
- we believe the adult is being coerced or is under duress.
- it is necessary to contact the police to prevent a crime, or to report that a serious crime has been committed.
- the adult does not have mental capacity to consent to information being shared about them.
- the person causing harm has care and support needs.
- the concerns are about an adult at risk living in Wales or Northern Ireland (where there is a duty to report to the Local Authority).

When information is shared without the consent of the adult this will be explained to them, when it is safe to do so, and any further actions should still fully include them.

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	Triathlon England Board
	Triathlon Scotland Board
	Welsh Triathlon Board
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Appendix 1

	England – Care Act 2014; Scotland - Adult Support and Protection Act 2007	Wales - Social Services and Well Being Act 2014
	An individual aged 18 years and over who:	An individual aged 16 years and over who:
A	has needs for care and support (whether the local authority is meeting any of those needs); and	is unable to safeguard their own well-being, property, rights or other interests; and
B	is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and	is at risk of harm; and
C	because of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.	because they are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity, is more vulnerable to being harmed than adults who are not so affected.

Appendix 2

Useful contacts

Ann Craft Trust (ACT)

A national organisation providing information and advice about adult safeguarding.

0115 951 5400

Ann-Craft-Trust@nottingham.ac.uk

www.anncrafttrust.org

Anti bullying alliance

anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

advice and support [here](#)

Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS)

NHS funded services for young people in the mental health arena in the UK

Find your local CAMHS team [here](#)

ChildLine

ChildLine help anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they are going through.

08001111 or you can email or live chat at:

www.childline.org.uk/about/about-childline

Mind

Information, advice, guidance and support for people with mental health problems.

0300 123 3393

info@mind.org.uk

National 24Hour Freephone Domestic Abuse Helplines

[England](#)

[Wales](#)

[Scotland](#)

Respond

Respond provides a range of services to victims and perpetrators of sexual abuse who have learning disabilities.

020 7383 0700

admin@respond.org.uk

Stop Hate Crime

Work to challenge all forms of Hate Crime and discrimination, based on any aspect of an individual's identity.

0800 1381625

info@stophateuk.org

Victim support

Dedicated charity to supporting people affected by crime and traumatic incidents

08 08 16 89 111

www.victimsupport.org.uk