

# Lark Angling & Preservation Society

## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

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### **FOREWORD**

SPORT CAN AND DOES HAVE A POWERFUL AND POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY YOUNG PEOPLE. NOT ONLY CAN IT PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENJOYMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT, IT CAN ALSO DEVELOP VALUABLE QUALITIES SUCH AS SELF-ESTEEM, LEADERSHIP AND TEAMWORK. THESE POSITIVE EFFECTS CAN ONLY TAKE PLACE IF SPORT IS IN THE RIGHT HANDS – IN THE HANDS OF THOSE WHO PLACE THE WELFARE OF ALL YOUNG PEOPLE FIRST AND ADOPT PRACTICES TO SUPPORT, PROTECT AND EMPOWER THEM.

The Society is committed to ensuring that all young people who participate in angling have a safe and positive experience. By implementing policies and procedures which ensure that everyone knows and accepts their responsibility in relation to their 'Duty of Care' for young people. It is committed to ensuring that these policies apply to all people both in a paid or voluntary capacity, according to their level of contact with young persons

This document outlines the Lark Angling & Preservation Society's Child Protection Policy statement and details the principles behind it.

This document should be used in conjunction with the full ADB Child Protection Policy, which sets out a framework to fulfill the ADB's commitment to Safeguarding and Protecting Children within the sport of angling. The full ADB Child Protection Policy includes guidance on good practice in a number of areas involved in angling activities and can be obtained from any of the websites of the national governing bodies of angling in England.

The term young people throughout this policy refers to those aged under 18 years of age.

The term angling used throughout this policy refers to all those recognized disciplines by the ADB including; Coarse, Game or Sea Anglers, Disabled, Tournament or Recreational. All references to ADB and the angling governing bodies' within this document relates to the respective disciplines of angling

## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

THE SOCIETY'S FUNDAMENTAL GOALS ARE TO:

FACILITATE AND PROMOTE DIVERSITY OF PARTICIPATION IN ANGLING AND TO SUPPORT THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND WELFARE BENEFITS OF ANGLING PARTICIPATION. PROMOTE AND SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS AIMED AT INCREASING ANGLING PARTICIPATION AND FURTHERING KNOWLEDGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION.

TO WORK WITH AND SUPPORT OTHER VOLUNTARY BODIES WITH SIMILAR OBJECTIVES.

This includes introducing children and young people to the tranquil and safe sport of angling and to educate them into appreciating, respecting and protecting the environment that surrounds our fisheries – the vegetation and the wildlife, and at the same time to educate and direct them away from getting involved in crime, violence, alcoholism and drugs in the anticipation of turning the youngsters of today into good citizens of tomorrow.

# CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

## Responsibilities

The SOCIETY and the angling governing bodies will:

- accept the moral and legal responsibility to implement procedures to provide a duty of care for young people, safeguard their well-being and protect them from abuse
- respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of young people
- recruit, train and supervise their volunteers so as to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect young people from abuse, and themselves against allegations
- require staff and volunteers to adopt and abide by the Society's Child Protection Policy and Procedures which incorporate the ADB Code of Conduct and Ethics
- respond to any complaints about poor practice or allegations of abuse.

## Principles

The guidance given in the full procedures is based on

The following principles:

- This policy recognizes and builds on the legal and statutory definitions of a child
- A young person is recognized as being under the age of 18 years (Children's Act 1989 definition)
- An adult has the moral and statutory duty for the care, custody and control of any child under the age of 18 under their supervision
- The child's welfare is paramount
- all young people, whatever their age, culture, any disability they may have, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse
- all incidents of poor practice or suspicions of poor practice and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately all young people have the right to participate in the sport of angling in an enjoyable and

Safe environment

- Young people have the right to expect appropriate support in accordance with their personal and social development with regard to their

Involvement in the sport of angling

- It is the responsibility of the child protection experts and agencies to determine

whether or not abuse has taken place but it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns

- Confidentiality should be upheld in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Human Rights Act 2000. Working in partnership with young people, their parents and other agencies is essential to ensure the protection of young people. Although the Society and the angling governing bodies recognize the statutory responsibility of Children's Social Care Services to ensure the welfare of young people and work with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) to comply with its procedures, child protection has a broader remit within the sport of angling.

All those involved in the management of young people in the sport of angling have a duty to ensure that they are:

- allowed access to the sport in a way that is appropriate for their age and ability
- coached and trained by appropriately qualified staff
- Not required to participate in so many competitions, or to attend training sessions,

As to become a threat to their well-being

- Not subjected to any form of discriminatory abuse from any source
- Not subjected to bullying or undue pressure from any source
- encouraged to achieve their full potential at all levels
- instructed how to behave around water-based venues
- afforded respect, confidentiality and privacy in a competing and training situation and any other angling environment.

## **Implementation**

The L.A.P.S Child Protection Policy and Procedures shall be adopted by the following:

- The Lark Angling Preservation Society and its members
- all other bodies working in partnership with the Society to provide opportunities for work with children and young people up to the age of 18 (either on a paid or voluntary basis) within the sport of angling

All individuals involved in the sport of angling under the jurisdiction of the Society at every level including participants, instructors / coaches, administrators and Society officials agree to abide by the ADB Code of Conduct and Ethics.

All such individuals, by participating or being involved in angling, are deemed to have assented to and as such recognize and adhere to the principles and responsibilities embodied in the Code.

### Child Protection Regulations

The Child Protection Regulations shall be incorporated in the constitution of the Society, Monitoring Procedures

The Societies Child Protection Policy and Procedures will be monitored annually and a full policy review will take place tri-annually. The following situations may also evoke a review of the policy:

- Any changes in legislation
- Any changes in governance of the sport
- The result of a significant case.

The term parent/s throughout this document refers to parent/s, carer/s and guardian/s.

The term Coach/Instructor may be used interchangeably throughout this document; it refers to anyone qualified (who holds a valid license) by the ADB.

All references to 'Society within this document also relates to Branch or Division for the respective disciplines of angling.

### USEFUL CONTACTS

#### Essential Contacts

Should you have any difficulties please contact the Societies Welfare Officer

David Whitear  
41 Pembroke Close  
Mildenhall  
Suffolk  
IP28  
01638 718935

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHARTER

The Lark Angling & Preservation Society treats young anglers with respect, values them at all times and will make angling a safe sport for young people.

We want you to be:

- treated fairly by other anglers and know you will be listened to and respected
- cared for by skilled, experienced staff and volunteers who understand you
- given praise and encouragement and the opportunity to make yourself a better angler
- encouraged to develop self-awareness and be considerate to others
- Able to learn new skills, gain confidence and be positive most of all we want you to feel that angling is a safe sport!

As a young person you are the future of our sport and we want to help you to be a successful angler.