



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC CLUB  
THE PAVILION,  
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Est 1857

## Child Protection Policy for Cambridge University Athletic Club (CUAC)

[Adapted from Cambridge University Women's Basketball Club CPP]

### Policy Aims

- Establish clear lines of communication for any child protection issue.
- Avoid confusion for instructors, officials, clubs and members.

There is a considerable body of legislation, government guidance and standards designed to ensure that children are safeguarded from harm. These include:

- *Children Act 1989*
- *Children Act 2004*
- *Protection of Children Act 1999*
- *Human Rights Act 1998*
- *UN Convention on Rights of the Child*
- *Sexual Offences Act 2003*
- *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010* document by the Department for Children, Schools and Families
- *Every Child Matters* green paper

Everyone who works with or around children and/or young people needs to be aware of the laws that aim to protect children from harm.

Should you have any queries relating to this policy, please contact any of the following:

### Contact Phone/Email

<i>UKA safeguarding:</i> Angus Macdonald	safeguarding@uka.org.uk 07920 532552
<i>Club Access Officer (2023-24) :</i> Ikechi Mere	lmacm2@cam.ac.uk

<i>Club Welfare Officer (2023- 24):</i> Shani Wright	shw46@cam.ac.uk
<i>Club Welfare Officer (2023- 24):</i> John Cunneen	jmc228@cam.ac.uk

The policy is supported by the UK Athletics Safeguarding Policy which is available from the club on request and can be downloaded from the England Athletics website (<https://www.englandathletics.org/clubhub/resource/child-safeguarding-policy/?from=1>).

If you should have any concerns about the immediate safety of a child or vulnerable adult, refer to pages 10-11 of the aforementioned document, but you should **REACT IMMEDIATELY**; Children’s Services and Police are always available. Expert advice can also be provided by the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000 or Childline on 0800 1111.

## **Policy Statement**

### ***CUAC Duty of Care***

CUAC recognises that for Child Protection purposes, a child refers to any person under the age of 18.

CUAC recognises that sport can and does have a very powerful and positive influence on 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 that support, protect and empower them.

Most youngsters happily and safely participate in sport under the watchful and concerned care of dedicated instructors and club members. However, the reality is also that abuse does take place in sport and in some cases, members have been convicted. Every adult has a legal and moral responsibility to protect young people and disabled adults in sport from abuse.

CUAC recognises its duty of care towards young and vulnerable participants and can help to protect them from abuse. (From Guidelines for Governing Bodies of Sport and Local Authorities, Sports Coach UK (NCF), NSPCC.)

### ***Principles***

CUAC recognises that:

- The welfare of young people and vulnerable adults is the primary concern.

- All young people whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.
- It is the responsibility of the child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns.
- All incidents of suspicious poor practice and allegations should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

### ***Summary of Responsibilities***

#### **CUAC**

- Accepts the moral and legal responsibility to implement procedures to provide a duty of care for young people, safeguard their wellbeing and protect them from abuse.
- Respects and promotes the rights, wishes and feelings of young people and disabled adults.
- Recruits, trains and supervises its members to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect young people from abuse and themselves against false allegations.
- Requires members to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and guidelines included in the UK Athletics Safeguarding Policy.
- Employed staff should abide by CUAC guidelines.
- Responds to allegations appropriately and implement the appropriate disciplinary and appeals procedures.

It is intended that all members working with children, young people and vulnerable adults will receive training to assist them in the recognition of abuse, the referral process, sensible working practices, and to identify 'appointed persons' within England Athletics and at club level, whom staff can contact about child protection issues.

Signed on behalf of the Committee:     Leonie Brunning     Date:   18 August 2023  

Role of Signatory: Club Honorary Secretary