



Herts County Auto and Aero Club Child Safeguarding Policy

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Herts County Auto and Aero Club is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of its members. All members should show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of others and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the Club.

1. The Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all young people entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all members.
2. The Club confirms that it adheres to the MSA Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, practices and guidelines. The Club will follow the guidance of the policy in the event of any concerns or allegations.
3. A child is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any motor sport activity.
4. The key principles of this policy are as follows:
 - o The welfare of the child is, and must always be, paramount to any other consideration
 - o Club events and activities for young people will follow and adhere to the MSA Race 'n' Respect values and the MSA U18 Policy
 - o All participants regardless of age, gender, ability or disability, race, faith, culture, size, shape, language or sexual identity have the right to be protected from abuse or harm
 - o All allegations, suspicions or concerns of abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly and appropriately
5. The Club recognises that all children have the right to participate in sport in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment whilst at the same time being protected from abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice. The Club recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult involved, in whatever capacity, at the Club.
6. The Club will implement and comply with the MSA Code of Conduct.
7. The Club will appoint a Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) to deal with any issues concerning Safeguarding and Child Protection and notify this person to all members.



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8. The CSO is Mrs Evelyn Gibbs. **If you witness or are aware of an incident where you are concerned** the welfare of a child has been put at risk you must, in the first instance, inform the CSO. If at any time you are not able to contact your CSO and the matter is clearly serious then you can either:
- o Contact the MSA Lead Safeguarding Officer 01753 765 071 or e-mail safeguarding@msauk.org
 - o Contact the Police or Children's Social Care
 - o Call the NSPCC 24 hour Helpline for advice on 0800 800 5000 or text 88858 or email help@nspcc.org.uk
9. The Club will follow MSA guidance and ensure that anyone that meets the eligibility criteria for a Disclosure check (DBS, or PVG in Scotland) is checked.
10. The Club will ensure that all its members, whether they are coaches, parents, competitors or officials will comply with all guidance and best practice as issued by the MSA. In summary, the following points are considered as best practice to create a safe, friendly and welcoming environment for children:
- o Adults should display high standards of personal behaviour and refrain from pursuits considered unhealthy in front of children and be good role models
 - o Employees and volunteers should avoid working in isolation with children and out of sight of parents or other volunteers
 - o Not drinking alcohol excessively whilst responsible for children
 - o Avoiding smoking in the presence of children if you are in a position of trust such as a coach or team manager
11. The following are **NOT** acceptable and will be treated seriously by the club and may result in disciplinary action being taken by the Club, MSA or Statutory Agencies if relevant.
- o Providing alcohol to children or allowing its supply
 - o Humiliating children
 - o Making sexually explicit comments or sharing sexually explicit material
 - o Using obscene or foul language
 - o Having an intimate or sexual relationship with any child
 - o Inappropriate or unnecessary physical contact with a child
 - o Sharing the same immediate accommodation, e.g. overnight room, with children when away at events (excluding parents)

Signed  CHAIRMAN

Date 09/09/2017