

## **Safeguarding Training Policy for Coaches and Leaders**

British Canoeing Awarding Body believes all Paddlesport Instructors, Coaches and Leaders need to understand their Safeguarding responsibilities and that they have a responsibility to maintain a current Safeguarding award to ensure they can look after paddlers in their care.

It is the deployer's duty to ensure that the course content and training provider selected for the purposes of Safeguarding training is appropriate for their specific needs.

### **Selecting a Suitable Safeguarding Training Provider (see Appendix 1)**

There are many options when selecting a Safeguarding course. The first priority should be selecting the most appropriate for your specific needs. As part of this you will also need to undertake a reasonable level of enquiry or investigation into how the provider will deliver the training you require.

### **Selecting Course Content**

You will also need to ensure, should you wish to register for a training or assessment course for a British Canoeing Awarding Body Coaching or Leadership Award, that your choice meets the minimum requirement for your training/assessment.

#### **1. Registration for British Canoeing Awarding Body Coaching and Leadership Awards**

Candidates who have contact with children and/or adults at risk are required to provide evidence of at least 3 hours' of interactive (not eLearning) Safeguarding training (within the last 3 years) which covers the following topics:

- How to identify and recognise good coaching practice and the implications for your coaching;
- Explore your values and feelings in relation to child abuse and recognise their potential impact on your response;
- How to recognise and respond to possible signs of child abuse;
- How to take appropriate action if concerns about a child arise.

Candidates who have no contact with children must provide evidence of eLearning or interactive training (within the last 3 years) which covers the following topics:

- How to identify and recognise good coaching practice and the implications for your coaching;
- Explore your values and feelings in relation to child abuse and recognise their potential impact on your response;
- How to recognise and respond to possible signs of child abuse;
- How to take appropriate action if concerns about a child arise.

Note: Whilst Paddlesport Instructors do not need a Safeguarding training at assessment, we recommend they undergo Safeguarding training. To provide the British Canoeing Awarding Body Paddle Awards, the Paddlesport Instructor will require a Safeguarding training.

## **2. Ongoing Needs Assessment**

Following assessment or the attainment of a specific award, it is the responsibility of British Canoeing Awarding Body Instructors, Coaches and Leaders and/or their deployer to evaluate their likely work and the type of situations that they can reasonably expect to encounter, and to maintain current appropriate Safeguarding training. Influencing factors such as remoteness, facilities to hand, other trained Safeguarding provision available, etc. will need to be considered. As part of this process, it is important to consider:

- The training course content;
- Course length;
- Competence of the training provider.

**Note: see Appendix 1 for examples**

It also important to consider the frequency of the training being undertaken, in relation to the need's assessment, we recommend deployers consider all options available:

- Annual refreshers
- In-house training
- Webinar based training
- eLearning
- Workshops and face to face courses.

### **3. British Canoeing Awarding Body Update Scheme**

Holding valid Safeguarding Training is part of the British Canoeing Awarding Body Update Scheme; coaches and leaders who meet these requirements are recognised as being active and up to date. To maintain British Canoeing Awarding Body Update status, coaches and leaders are required to have attended Safeguarding training within the last 3 years, and it be recorded on their Delivery Centre membership record.

### **4. Providers of British Canoeing Awarding Body Awards**

British Canoeing Awarding Body accepts an enhanced responsibility for providers of their awards. Therefore, coaches and leaders with tutoring and assessor roles are required to maintain a Safeguarding training.

#### **What we may check?**

- Content
- Course length

## **Appendix 1 – Selecting a Suitable Safeguarding Training Provider**

With an ever-increasing range of Safeguarding providers, it is important that Instructors, Coaches and Leaders select a reputable Provider. British Canoeing Awarding Body recommends that Instructors, Coaches and Leaders first consider specialist Safeguarding training delivered by:

- Introduction to Safeguarding - British Canoeing Awarding Body Online Training;
- Organisations that can provide evidence of expertise in delivering Safeguarding training e.g. NSPCC, UK Coaching, Children 1st, **sportscotland**, Sport NI, Welsh Sports Association, etc.;
- Organisations who choose to offer Safeguarding training regulated by Ofqual, the Scottish Qualifications Authority or the Welsh Government.

### **Exemptions**

We recognise that many volunteer organisations, employers and deployers have their own in-house training schemes for Safeguarding, for example; outdoor instructors, police officers, qualified teachers. However, they still need to provide a recognised Safeguarding certificate or other evidence of Safeguarding currency. Other evidence may include a letter from someone in a senior position confirming Safeguarding training, or an in-house Safeguarding certificate. Evidence of employment alone is not sufficient.