



St Austell Bay Archers (including St Austell Bay Junior Archers)

Affiliated to:-

FITA, The Grand National Archery Society, Grand Western Archery Society,
Devon and Cornwall Archery Society.

Child Protection and Practice policy

Introduction

St Austell Bay Archers are determined to ensure all necessary steps are taken to protect from harm, those children and young children who participate in any archery event organized by the club at any level. This policy establishes the club's position, the role and responsibilities of its members and clarifies what is expected of adult members and individuals involved in the Clubs activities. It's very clearly highlights the importance placed by the club on the protection of children and young people.

St Austell Bay Archers supports the introduction by GNAS of its child protection policy in September 2003, acknowledging that this is a first draft of the centralised policy, which is likely to change over time. The club will abide by the guidelines set.

Mission Statement

☉ Every child and young person who engages in archery should be able to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from abuse. St Austell Bay Archers will do it's very best to ensure this happens.

Abuse can take many forms, including emotional, neglect, physical and sexual. We must strike a balance, as extreme avoidance of one form can lead to abuse of a different type. This is the responsibility of every adult involved in Archery in the club. Child abuse is a very emotive and difficult subject. It is important to understand the feelings involved but not to allow them to interfere with our judgement about any action to be taken.

Clear practices and procedures exist within the GNAS Policy documentation to ensure that everyone should be aware of what is expected of them in relation to the protection of children and young people within our sport. It is essential that those children and young people attracted to and participating in Archery are able to do so in a quality, safe and enjoyable environment.

Aims

The aims of this child protection policy are:

- ☉ To develop a positive and pro-active position in order to best protect all children and young people engaging in archery, enabling them to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment
- ☉ To protect adults from unfounded allegations, by raising awareness of vulnerable situations to be avoided.
- ☉ To demonstrate good practice in the area of children protection.
- ☉ To promote ethics and high standards throughout club activities involving juniors.

Principles

This club supports and accepts the principles and guidelines set out in the GNAS policy on the "Protection of children and vulnerable Adults".

The key principles underpinning the club's policy are that:

- ☉ The child's welfare is, and must always be, the primary consideration.
- ☉ All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- ☉ The club has a responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying.
- ☉ The club has an obligation to ensure the highest possible standard of care, ethics and behaviour.
- ☉ All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- ☉ Any act, statement, conduct or other matter that harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, constitutes behaviour that is improper and brings the club and the sport into disrepute.

Shelia Stevens

Child Protection Officer for St Austell Bay Archers

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