



Winsford and District Angling Association

Safeguarding Policy

Winsford and District Angling Association (WDAA) is an organisation that offers unrestricted access to membership, and anyone of any age, gender, race or level of ability is welcome to join.

WDAA actively promotes angling as a recreational pastime and is committed to providing opportunities for angling, of a high quality, on a variety of still-waters, rivers and canals.

WDAA is committed to the concept of angling development, which encourages both the initial uptake of the sport by newcomers, and the ongoing education and support necessary for them to become proficient as anglers. Many of those coming into the sport are juniors (ie. 17 years and under) and ensuring their personal safety, and that of all participating in organised events, is an important aspect of this.

Angling Development events are organised both to educate, and to encourage competition between younger anglers and WDAA is aware of the risks and hazards associated with hosting such events. The safety and welfare of both participants and of members of the public shall take priority when organising such events. Therefore, it is the policy of WDAA to safeguard these attendees so far as reasonably practicable by:

- Ensuring events are only organised and run by a qualified and licensed lead coach (level 2), assisted wherever possible by qualified and licensed support coaches (level 1).
- Providing adequate supervision for the number of attendees at each event.
- Providing suitable and sufficient information and training for volunteer helpers that attend and support the events.
- Ensuring that volunteer helpers have completed a self declaration and are DBS checked.
- Performing a risk assessment of the venue to identify any potential hazards prior to the event.
- Implementing control measures to minimise the risk associated with identified hazards.
- Promoting the event so allowing sufficient time for efficient organisation and in a suitably clear manner, without ambiguity
- Recommending that parents or guardians accompany junior attendees.
- Obtaining permission from parents or guardians for the junior to attend.
- Obtaining permission from parents or guardians to take photos of juniors attending the event and to use such photos for publicity purposes.
- Ensuring that each attendee is within a clear line of sight, or is under the direct supervision of either a level 1 or 2 coach.
- Ensuring that suitable and sufficient lifesaving equipment is available for the venue.

- Ensuring that suitable and sufficient first aid equipment is available and the appropriate number of qualified first aiders are present.
- Ensuring prompt contact can be made with the emergency services if necessary in case of accident or incident.
- Keeping a written record of any accident or incident - particularly any injury requiring first aid.
- Ensuring that emergency contact details are taken for all attendees - including parents or guardians. Emergency contacts should be people who are not present.
- Providing suitable and sufficient information for the attendees regarding clothing and footwear for the event including protection against inclement weather such as waterproof clothing and suitable footwear.
- Provide suitable and sufficient information about the need for protection against very warm or cold and wet weather.
- Communicating the need to parents or guardians that attendees should bring anything they are likely to require during the course of the event; including necessary medication, sufficient food and drink, sun cream and hand sanitiser.
- Ensuring that attendees who are left by their parents or guardian under the supervision of WDAA are returned safely to their parents after the event.
- Taking precautions against transmission of disease by applying suitable protocol for the wearing of appropriate PPE.
- Protecting the attendees from bullying, interference or coercion.
- Implementing a fair and equitable disciplinary process to address behaviour that falls short of expected standards.
- Escalating any complaint or issue promptly to the relevant authorities via our Safeguarding Officer.
- Ensuring that each fishing peg is in adequate condition to be utilised, safe to access and is free from litter and other hazards that have potential to cause harm.
- Identifying flora and fauna that may cause harm to the attendees.
- Ensuring that the duration of the event is suitable and not excessive for the attendees.
- Ensuring that the venue is easily accessible without undue restriction and the designated fishing area is within easy reach without excessive walking.
- Providing equipment where appropriate that is in a suitable and safe condition for use.
- Providing suitable and sufficient information and instruction for those attendees who are unfamiliar with use of angling equipment.
- Maintaining adequate insurance to cover WDAA during these events.

The Secretary WDAA

February 2023