



Boxing Scotland Limited Child Wellbeing & Protection in Sport Policy

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Introduction

Boxing Scotland always adheres to and promotes our Vision, Mission, Ethical Framework and Core Values: *Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Good Citizenship*. These values inform all our activities and conduct and are the foundation of our Codes of Conduct.

The Codes of Conduct set out the standards of behaviour, including online and through social media, which Boxing Scotland expects of everyone who contributes to or participates in our sport. Serious breaches of the Codes of Conduct are likely to result in disciplinary action being taken.

Boxing Scotland is unequivocally committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children involved in its activities. We recognise our duty to uphold the highest standards of safeguarding and child welfare, providing a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment in which children can participate in Boxing without fear of harm, abuse, or exploitation.

For the purpose of this policy, a child is defined as anyone under the age of 18.

Boxing Scotland is steadfast in promoting diversity, inclusivity, and respect for the rights of all children and young people. We acknowledge our collective responsibility to create and maintain a safe sporting environment where children's rights are fully protected.

This policy serves as a framework for protecting children and guiding all members, staff, and volunteers on their safeguarding responsibilities.

Core Principles

Boxing Scotland's safeguarding guidelines are founded upon the following essential principles:

- **The welfare of children is paramount:** All actions and decisions will prioritise the safety and well-being of children above all else.
- **Right to protection:** Every child, irrespective of age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, background, religious belief, or sexual identity, is entitled to protection from all forms of harm, abuse, and exploitation.
- **Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility:** Child protection is not confined to specific individuals or groups but is a collective duty that involves all those working or volunteering within Boxing Scotland.
- **Children's right to be heard:** Children must be given the opportunity to voice their views on all matters that affect them, with these views given due consideration in line with their age and understanding.
- **Partnership working:** We are committed to working collaboratively with children, parents, carers, and external agencies to promote the well-being, health, and development of children

Boxing Scotland's Commitment

In fulfilling our safeguarding responsibilities, Boxing Scotland will:

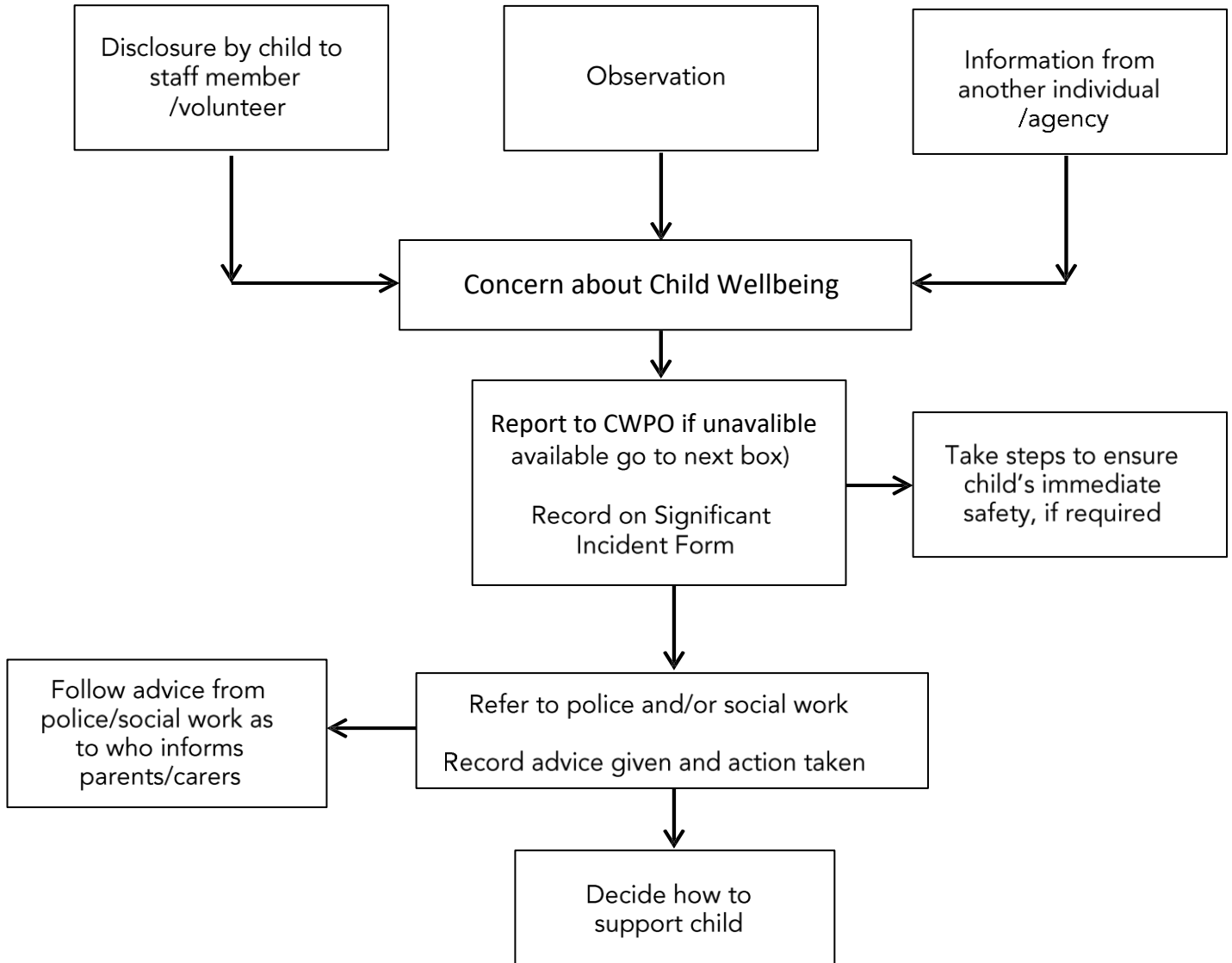
1. **Promote child health and welfare:** We will provide opportunities for children to participate in Boxing in a safe and supportive manner, ensuring their physical and emotional needs are met.
2. **Uphold children's rights:** Boxing Scotland will actively respect, protect, and promote the rights, wishes, and feelings of all children, ensuring their dignity and well-being are safeguarded at all times.
3. **Implement robust safeguarding procedures:** We will adopt and rigorously implement effective safeguarding policies and procedures to protect children from harm, abuse, and exploitation, and respond promptly and effectively to any concerns or allegations.
4. **Recruit and train staff and volunteers:** Boxing Scotland will recruit, train, and continually support staff, volunteers, and members to understand and practice safeguarding best practices, ensuring they are equipped to prevent harm and respond appropriately to any child protection concerns.
5. **Mandatory compliance:** All staff, volunteers, and members are required to adhere to this Child Protection Policy and associated procedures, maintaining the highest standards of safeguarding in all interactions with children.
6. **Respond to allegations:** Any allegations of abuse or misconduct involving children will be treated with the utmost seriousness, investigated according to this Policy, and appropriate actions will be taken, including the application of relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures.
7. **Work with local authorities:** Boxing Scotland will comply with local Child Protection Committee guidelines, ensuring a coordinated approach to child protection and safeguarding.
8. **Monitor and evaluate safeguarding practices:** The implementation of this policy will be regularly assessed and evaluated, with adjustments made where necessary to ensure continuous improvement in safeguarding practices.

Reporting Concerns Procedure

All concerns regarding the well-being or safeguarding of children involved in Boxing Scotland activities should be reported as soon as possible.

1. **Initial Reporting:** Concerns should initially be raised with the appointed Club Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer (CWPO), who will be responsible for addressing the concern in line with this Policy. The Club CWPO will assess the concern and, if necessary, escalate the issue to a more senior safeguarding authority within Boxing Scotland.
2. **Escalation:** If the concern is deemed to be of a serious nature or requires further investigation, the Club CWPO will escalate the issue to the Boxing Scotland Regional Safeguarding Officer ie the Regional Development Officer for immediate action.
3. **Alternative Reporting:** Alternatively, concerns can be raised directly via the dedicated safeguarding email address at safeguarding-CWPO@boxingscotland.org, or through the Child Wellbeing and Safeguarding in Sport section of the Boxing Scotland website. Boxing Scotland takes all concerns seriously and will ensure that each report is thoroughly investigated, with appropriate action taken to safeguard the welfare of the child. All information will be treated confidentially and in accordance with data protection guidelines.

Protocols for Responding to Concerns About a Child



Policy Review

This Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure its ongoing relevance and effectiveness. The review process will take place under the following circumstances:

- In response to changes in legislation or safeguarding guidance.
- Following any incident or concern related to child protection within Boxing Scotland.

This Policy will be reviewed annually. All clubs within Boxing Scotland must adopt this Child Protection Policy, ensuring it is communicated to and understood by all involved with the club, including children, parents, and carers. A copy of this policy should be prominently displayed within the club, ensuring its visibility and accessibility at all times.

Conclusion

Boxing Scotland is dedicated to fostering a safe, welcoming, and protective environment for children. Our commitment to safeguarding is unwavering, and we will continue to uphold the rights and welfare of every child entrusted to our care. We expect all those within our organisation to act with integrity and responsibility, ensuring the safety and well-being of children at all times.

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