**SAFEGUARDING**

**A GUIDE FOR PARENTS/CARERS**



**This leaflet is designed to provide parents/carers with information on good practice whose children participate in ice skating.**

It is essential that parents/carers have a general awareness of good practice when selecting an ice skating club for a young person or adult to attend. This will ensure that they can enjoy ice skating within a safe and secure environment where they feel protected and empowered to make the most suitable choices. Providing children and adults with positive sporting experiences means that they will be more likely to achieve their true potential.

Every young person and adult has the right to have fun and to be safe and free from harm, whether training or playing for a local club or at a representative level. As parents/carers you should feel comfortable with the environment that your child is in and able to ask questions about the organisation, structure, people, policies and practices of that club or organisation.

This document is designed to provide parents/carers with information on good practice and ideas of questions to ask, and to ensure that both you and your child understand the way the club works, and your roles and responsibilities.

Every individual and Club within ice skating has a role and responsibility to safeguard the safety and welfare of young people and adults and to ensure that ice skating activities are safe and fun.

**Questions for parents/guardians to consider**

**Are the coaches BIS-qualified?**

**Does the club have valid insurance cover?**

All BIS clubs/organisations must have appropriate and up to date insurance cover.

**Are the coaches and club personnel suitable to work with young people?**

All coaches and volunteers who regularly coach, train, supervises or who are in sole charge of young people and adults at risk should have appropriate safer recruitment checks completed.

**Does the club collect emergency contact details and medical information?**

Clubs and coaches need to know contact details in case of an emergency and also need to be aware of any medication your child is taking or if they have any other particular needs. You should be asked to complete a parental consent form with this information, when you first attend an activity, but if not, inform the coach or organiser.

**Who do I tell if my child takes medication?**

BIS clubs/rinks and coaches need to be aware of any medication that your child is taking, or if they have any other particular needs. You should be asked when you first attend an activity, but if not inform the coach.

**Child Protection Policy / Adults at Risk Policy**

The club will have formally adopted a child protection and adults at risk policies, outlining procedures for dealing with possible abuse, disclosures or poor practice. You will be able to view this policy on request.

**A named Welfare Officer**

The Club will have appointed a Welfare Officer, whose responsibility is primarily to promote good practice, to be the named point of contact for young people adults, parents, coaches and volunteers, and to understand BIS’s reporting procedures in case a concern is raised.

**Insurance**

The club has minimum public liability insurance.

**Code of Conduct**

Codes of Conduct should be in place for; player, coaches, officials, volunteers, and parents/carers. These should be promoted to and adopted by everyone concerned.

**YOUR ROLE AS A PARENT/CARER**

Always ensure that you:

* Provide your child with the correct kit and equipment including refreshments if required
* Arrange for your child to be dropped off and picked up promptly from the club and matches.
* Contact the club if you are running late to collect your child
* Adhere to the rules of the club
* Adhere to the Codes of Conduct/ Behaviour within the club, in particular the Parents’ Code of Conduct / Behaviour
* Accept the guidance that coaches provide and officials decisions within events
* Use appropriate language at all times
* Never force your child to participate
* Provide emergency contact details and any relevant information about your child, including medical history, and update the club if it changes
* Become involved in the club as much as possible. This provides your child with the support to enjoy ice skating
* Support the coaches by ensuring your child enjoys skating.
* Encourage fair play
* Encourage your child to recognise good performance, not just results.

**What do you do if you have any concerns about the welfare of a child or adult? The first contact is the Welfare Officer at the club**

* Ask to speak with them and explain your concerns
* All concerns will be taken seriously and investigated
* All concerns will be treated in the strictest confidence, with only the people who can help the situation becoming involved if required. Use the space provided on the contacts details page to record the details of your club’s welfare officer.

**USEFUL CONTACTS**

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| **Organisation** | **Contact details** |
| Your Club Welfare Officer | Name:Tel:Email: |
| NISA | **John Mills***BIS Lead Safeguarding Officer*c/o English Institute of SportColeridge RoadSheffieldS9 5DAwww.iceskating.org.uk Tel: 01159 888 060Tel: 07535 041881Email: safeguarding@iceskating.org.uk  |
| NSPCC Helpline (24 hours) | Tel: 0808 800 5000Website: [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk) |
| NSPCC – Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) | Tel: 0116 234 7278Email: cpsu@nspcc.org.uk |
| Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO)See local phone directories, internet search engines or via Local Authority directly | NameTel:Email: |
| Local Safeguarding Children’s Board (LSCB) | Website: [www.safenetwork.org.uk](http://www.safenetwork.org.uk) |
| Victim Support Helpline | Tel: 0845 3030 900Website: [www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk) |
| Childline | Tel: 0800 1111Website: [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)  |