



# UK Women's Disc Golf Association

## Safeguarding Adults and Children Policy

### Introduction

Definition of Terms:

- 'Abuse' describes verbal, written or physical.
- 'child' or 'children' describes any person under the age of 18.
- References to 'parents' should be read as parents and carers inclusively.

The UK Women's Disc Golf Association (UKWDGA) is committed to Safeguarding in line with national legislation and relevant national and local guidelines.

We will safeguard by ensuring that our activities are delivered in a way which keeps all adults and children safe.

UKWDGA is committed to creating a culture of zero-tolerance of abuse and/or harm to adults and children which necessitates: the recognition of adults and children who may be at risk and the circumstances which may increase risk; knowing how adult or child abuse, exploitation or neglect manifests itself; and being willing to report safeguarding concerns.

UKWDGA is committed to best safeguarding practice and to uphold the rights of all adults and children to live a life free from harm, from abuse, exploitation and neglect.

### Policy Statement

The UKWDGA believes everyone has the right to live free from abuse or neglect regardless of age, ability or disability, sex, race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital or gender status.

The UKWDGA is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment and an open, listening culture where people feel able to share concerns without fear of retribution.

The UKWDGA acknowledges that safeguarding is everybody's responsibility and is committed to prevent abuse and neglect through safeguarding the welfare of all adults and children involved.

The UKWDGA recognises that health, well-being, ability, disability and need for care and support can affect a person's resilience. We recognise that some people experience barriers,



for example, to communicate in raising concerns or seeking help. We recognise that these factors can vary at different points in people's lives.

The UKWDGA recognises that there is a legal framework within which sports organisations need to work, to safeguard adults and children who have needs for care and support, and for protecting those who are unable to take action to protect themselves, and will act in accordance with the relevant safeguarding adult and child legislation and with local statutory safeguarding procedures.

Actions taken by UKWDGA will be consistent with the principles of adult and child safeguarding, ensuring that any action taken is prompt, proportionate and that it includes and respects the voice of the adult or child concerned.

## Scope and commitments

This Safeguarding Adult and Children Policy and associated procedures apply to all individuals involved in UKWDGA, including Executive Members, Volunteers and Members, and to all concerned about the safety of adults and children whilst taking part in our organisation and its activities.

We expect others we work with, including for example, Disc Golf Organisations and Clubs, Suppliers and Sponsors to adopt and demonstrate their commitment to the principles and practice as set out in this Safeguarding Adults and Children Policy and associated procedures.

In order to implement this policy the UKWDGA will ensure that:

- Everyone involved with the UKWDGA is aware of the Safeguarding Adult and Children Policy and related procedures, and knows what to do and who to contact if they have a concern relating to the welfare or wellbeing of an adult or child;
- Any concern that an adult or child is not safe is taken seriously, responded to promptly, and followed up in line with UKWDGA Safeguarding Adults and Children Policy and Procedures;
- The well-being of those at risk of harm will be put first and the adult or child actively supported to communicate their views and the outcomes they want to achieve. Those views and wishes will be respected and supported unless there are overriding reasons not to;
- Any actions taken will respect the rights and dignity of all those involved and be proportionate to the risk of harm;
- Confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns will be maintained and securely stored in line with our UKWDGA Data Protection Policy and Procedures;



- UKWDGA will cooperate with the Police and the relevant Local Authorities in taking action to safeguard an adult or child;
- When planning activities and events, UKWDGA will include an assessment of, and risk to, the safety of all adults and children from abuse and neglect and designate a person who will be identified and in attendance as a safeguarding lead for that event;
- The UKWDGA will adhere to and follow the current Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) guidance for youth safety during any PDGA Sanctioned Events it may hold ([PDGA Youth Safety](#)).

The Executive Members shall review this Policy annually or in line with any legislative changes.