



Safeguarding policy statement for our sport

British Parachute Association and its Affiliated Parachuting Training Organisations (PTOs) acknowledge the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of those taking part in our sport and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of participants are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, gender or sexual orientation, social-economic background, all participants:

- have a positive experience;
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in any skydiving activities and whilst attending British Parachute Association Affiliated Parachute Training Organisations.

British Parachute Association acknowledges that some young people, particularly children (in law, those aged under 18) and adults at risk, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and will take reasonable steps to ensure their welfare is considered whilst attending BPA Affiliated Parachute Training Organisations.

As part of our safeguarding policy, British Parachute Association and its Affiliated Parachute Training Organisations, will:

- promote and prioritise the safety and well being of children and adults at risk;
- ensure that there is an understanding of roles and responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and PTO personnel and representatives are provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns;
- ensure the appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individuals/PTOs who raise or disclose the concern;
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored;
- seek, to the extent permitted by law, to assure that individuals who are the subject of potential safeguarding concerns, do not instruct or coach students under the age of 18 or those who are identified as vulnerable adults;
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and form part of the Code of Practice for Instructors and Coaches. Failure to comply with the Code of Practice for Instructors and Coaches may give rise to disciplinary action.

Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstance:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance;
- as a result of a significant event.