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**ANTI-BULLYING POLICY**

**The SPYCC will:**

• recognise its duty of care and responsibility to safeguard all participants from

harm

• promote and implement this anti-bullying policy in addition to our safeguarding policy and procedures

• seek to ensure that bullying behaviour is not accepted or condoned

• require all members of SPYCC to be given information about, and sign up to, this policy

• take action to investigate and respond to any alleged incidents of bullying

• encourage and facilitate children and young people to play an active part in developing and adopting a code of conduct to address bullying

• ensure that staff, volunteers and coaches are given access to information, guidance and/or training on bullying.

**Each member, coach, volunteer or official will:**

• respect every child’s need for, and rights to, an environment where safety, security, praise, recognition and opportunity for taking responsibility are available

• respect the feelings and views of others

• recognise that everyone is important and that our differences make each of us special and should be valued

• show appreciation of others by acknowledging individual qualities, contributions and progress

be committed to the early identification of bullying, and prompt and collective action to deal with it

• ensure safety by having rules and practices carefully explained and displayed for all to see

• report incidents of bullying they see – by doing nothing you are condoning bullying.

**Bullying**

* all forms of bullying will be addressed
* everybody in SPYCC has a responsibility to work together to stop bullying
* bullying can include online as well as offline behaviour
* bullying can include:

- physical pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching etc.

- name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, persistent teasing and emotional torment through ridicule, humiliation or the continual ignoring of individuals

- posting of derogatory or abusive comments, videos or images on social network sites

- racial taunts, graffiti, gestures, sectarianism - sexual comments, suggestions or behaviour

- unwanted physical contact

• children with a disability, from ethnic minorities, young people who are gay or lesbian, or those with learning difficulties are more vulnerable to this form of abuse and are more likely to be targeted.

**Support to the child**

• children should know who will listen to and support them

• systems should be established to open the door to children wishing to talk about bullying or any other issue that affects them

• potential barriers to talking (including those associated with a child’s disability or impairment) need to be identified and addressed at the outset to enable children to approach adults for help

• children should have access to helpline numbers

• anyone who reports an incident of bullying will be listened to carefully and be supported

• any reported incident of bullying will be investigated objectively and will involve listening carefully to all those involved

• children being bullied will be supported and assistance given to uphold their right to enjoy their sport and live in a safe environment which allows their healthy development

• those who bully will be supported and encouraged to stop bullying

• sanctions for those bullying others that involve long periods of isolation, or which diminish and make individuals look or feel foolish in front of others, will be avoided.

**Support to the parents/carers**

* parents/carers to be advised on SPYCC bullying policy and practice
* any incident of bullying will be discussed with the child’s parents/carers
* parents/carers will be consulted on action to be taken (for both victim and bully) and agreements made as to what action should be taken
* information and advice on coping with bullying will be made available
* support should be offered to the parents/carers including information on other agencies or support lines.

**Useful contacts**

Beth Bramall - SPYCC Welfare Officer - pirateswelfare@gmail.com

NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000

ChildLine 0800 1111 / www.childline.org.uk

Kidscape www.kidscape.org.uk

Anti-Bullying Alliance www.antibullyingalliance.org.uk

British Cycling Lead Safeguarding Officer 0161 2742000