



## Grangemouth Triathlon Club

### Participation by Children and Young Persons in Cycling Activities

#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to protect children and young people from any harm that may be caused due as a result of their participation in cycling activities organised by or promoted on behalf of Grangemouth Triathlon Club. This includes harm arising from:

- The conduct of members, coaches or coaching assistants of Grangemouth Triathlon Club or other individuals taking part in club activities.
- The planning or implementation of Grangemouth Triathlon Club's programmes and activities.

The policy lays out the commitments made by Grangemouth Triathlon Club, and informs members, coaches, coaching assistants, parents, and associated personnel of their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and the safety of children and young people.

#### **Scope:**

All members, coaches, coaching assistants, parents, and other personnel assisting, competing or otherwise participating in Grangemouth Triathlon Club activities.

#### **Policy Statement:**

The committee of Grangemouth Triathlon Club believes that everyone we come into contact with, regardless of age, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation or ethnic origin has the right to be protected from all forms of harm, abuse, neglect and exploitation. Grangemouth Triathlon Club will not tolerate abuse and exploitation by staff or associated personnel. Furthermore, all participants in club activities should be able to do so in a safe and supportive environment taking account of an individual's needs with regards to their physical and emotional wellbeing.

This policy will address the safeguarding of children and young people and set out the responsibilities of the club committee and all individuals associated with the club in ensuring that children and young people are kept safe throughout their participation in cycling activities.

Grangemouth Triathlon Club commits to addressing safeguarding throughout its work, through the three pillars of prevention, reporting and response.

### **Method:**

Grangemouth Triathlon Club will plan and deliver cycling activities designed to develop the fitness, experience and abilities of children and young people through sessions aimed exclusively for those aged under 18 years of age. Such activities will be delivered by qualified coaches and coaching assistants who have been "Disclosure" checked through the PVG scheme.

These sessions will not involve any individuals over the age of 18 years other than those Disclosure checked individuals necessary for the safe and efficient running of the session or activity. Any exceptions to this will be subject to approval by the club committee and allowed only where additional protective measures are in place to ensure the safety of all involved. This may be considered for example where an individual, due to disability or other personal characteristic may be assessed as benefitting from participation in sessions or activities organised for those aged under 18 years of age.

Where an individual over 18 years of age takes part in an activity organised for those aged under 18 years of age, at no time will they be permitted to be alone with less than two members aged under 18 and must at all times be visible to a coach or coaching assistant whilst in the company of any person under 18 years of age.

Members aged under 18 years of age will not generally be permitted to participate in club cycling activities organised for adult members. However, for adult cycling activities which are coach led and take place entirely in a traffic free environment, such as off-road mountain biking, members aged 14-17 years of age may be permitted to participate where additional protective measures are in place and agreed between the member, responsible parent or guardian and the coach responsible for the session or activity. The ability of the under 18 year old member to safely participate will be assessed in advance of participation by the Head Coach or the Head Junior Coach taking account of their maturity, athletic ability and experience.

Additional protective measures will normally require to include having a parent or other responsible adult who is not involved in the running of the session taking responsibility for the safety of the under 18 year old member. Such an individual where not a parent or legal guardian must be an individual known personally to the parent or guardian and must have the express written permission of the parent to supervise the member who is aged under 18 years.

Members aged 14 to 17 years of age will only be permitted to participate in adult cycling activities on roads where traffic may be present where they are under the direct supervision

of their parent or legal guardian who must take full responsibility for the member aged under 18 years of age. There will be no coaching of such activities and the parent or guardian must provide written confirmation in advance that they agree to take full responsibility for the safety of the member aged under 18 years of age. For clarity, no person under 18 years of age will be permitted to participate alone in an individual cycle time trial however would be permitted to ride with the supervising parent or guardian riding immediately behind. Should the parent or guardian be required to stop at any time the under 18 year old must also stop and remain with the supervising parent or guardian.

During competitive events promoted by Grangemouth Triathlon Club and open to those who are not members of Grangemouth Triathlon Club those under the age of 18 will be permitted to participate in accordance with Triathlon Scotland's rules governing competition. The club's Safeguarding policy will also apply.