Policy 8: Safeguarding

1. Purpose

To protect children and vulnerable adults from harm during event activities.

2. Scope

- Applies to all interactions involving participants, volunteers, staff and the public.

3. Definitions

- Safeguarding concern: Any concern relating to harm or risk of harm.
- Vulnerable adult: An adult at increased risk due to circumstances or characteristics.
- Vulnerable persons: Individuals who are under 18 years of age or adults requiring additional care and support due to physical or mental health conditions, disabilities, or other circumstances that render them vulnerable to harm.

4. Legal / Regulatory Context (summary)

- Safeguarding duties apply where the Charity organises activities involving vulnerable persons.
- Prompt reporting and appropriate response are essential.
- Compliance with :
    - Children Act 1989 and 2004.
    - Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
    - Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023)
    - Equality Act 2010
    - Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR

5. Policy Statement

The Charity is committed to safeguarding and will take appropriate action where concerns arise.

6. Minimum Standards & Controls

- Safeguarding awareness briefings for volunteers and staff.
- Clear reporting routes and named safeguarding contact.
- Parental consent for under-18 participation where applicable.

7. Roles & Responsibilities

- Safeguarding Lead: Oversight of concerns and responses.
- All volunteers and staff: Duty to report concerns.

8. Decision-Making & Escalation

- Concerns escalated immediately where risk is present.
- External agencies contacted where appropriate.

9. Records & Evidence

- Safeguarding concern logs.
- Records of actions taken and communications.

10. Review

Safeguarding arrangements reviewed following any concern or incident.