

**Protecting Vulnerable Adults and Children Policy**

**Introduction**

Spey Runners (the Club) is committed to equal opportunities and aim to treat everyone with dignity and respect, and not to discriminate on grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. The Club has adopted the Scottish Athletics Equality policy. This can be found on the website [www.speyrunners.co.uk/welfare](http://www.speyrunners.co.uk/welfare)

Spey Runners will only accept children under the age of 16 on activities when they are accompanied by a parent, legal carer or other person with equivalent responsibility for them. We will only welcome adults in need of special care when they are accompanied by a carer/support worker to assist with their everyday needs.

Many Club run routes may be unsuitable for children or adults with disabilities and, as a result, the Club Committee may sometimes need to make judgements that take into account the safety and enjoyment of everyone involved in a run. As far as possible the Club will consider reasonable adjustments for anyone with a protected characteristic. The Club Committee has however, a right to refuse a participant if, in their opinion, this would result in danger to the individual or danger or major disruption to the rest of the group. The Club Committee will make these judgments, in accordance with the relevant risk assessment on a fair and practical basis and without making stereotypical or unwarranted assumptions.

**Procedure in the event of a disclosure or safeguarding concern**

1. In the event of a disclosure – reassure, listen, record, remain calm
2. Make sure the individual is safe
3. Record the information
4. Report the disclosure or concern to the appropriate authority immediately or as soon as possible. This could be through the following:

Social Work (01343 563900) during office hours – child protection

Social Work (03457 565 656) emergency out of hours – child protection

Police Scotland (101)

Adult Protection (01343 563999)

Moray Community Care Access Team (0845 600 5700)

1. Support the individual

Abuse of children may include physical, emotional, sexual, neglect and/or bullying.

Abuse of adults may include physical, domestic, sexual, psychological, emotional, financial/material, neglect, modern slavery, discriminatory, organisational/institutional and/or self neglect.