



CAPITAL REGION FISHING CHARTERS

Working With Minors Policy

Capital Region Fishing Charters

Purpose

Capital Region Fishing Charters is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and well-supervised environment for children and youth participating in guided fishing trips. This policy sets out the rules and expectations for bookings involving minors and for supervising minors during trips.

Scope

This policy applies to all guided trips involving participants under 18, and to the owner, guides, employees, contractors, volunteers, parents, legal guardians, and responsible adults booking or attending those trips.

Definition

For this policy, a **minor** is any person under 18 years of age.

Booking Requirements

- A parent or legal guardian must complete or approve the booking.
- A signed waiver and consent form must be completed before participation.
- An emergency contact must be provided.
- Relevant medical, allergy, behavioural, or accessibility information must be disclosed before the trip.
- The business may refuse or cancel participation if safe supervision cannot be maintained.

Supervision and Attendance Rules

- Minors must remain under direct supervision during the trip.
- Minors under 16 must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or responsible adult approved by the parent or guardian.
- Minors aged 16 to 17 may participate with signed parent or guardian consent, at the discretion of the guide.
- The guide may require a parent or guardian to be present for any minor if trip conditions, behaviour, maturity, weather, or safety concerns make that necessary.
- The guide has full authority to stop unsafe behaviour and end the trip if needed for safety.

Safety Requirements

- Properly fitted life jackets or PFDs must be worn as directed by the guide.
- A full safety briefing must be provided before departure.
- Age-appropriate instructions must be given.
- Fishing locations, techniques, and trip pace should be adjusted to the age and ability of the minor.
- Hooks, tackle, fish handling, and boat movement must be closely supervised.
- No minor may be left alone at a launch site, in a vehicle, or on the water.

Transportation, Pickup, and Drop-Off

- The business does not assume responsibility for transporting minors unless specifically arranged in advance.
- Parents or guardians are responsible for ensuring minors arrive at and leave from the designated meeting point safely.
- A minor will only be released to the parent, guardian, or approved responsible adult identified at booking, unless other written permission has been provided.

Conduct and Behaviour

- Minors must follow guide instructions, treat staff and others respectfully, and avoid horseplay or unsafe movement.
- Equipment may be used only as directed.
- Unsafe, aggressive, or disruptive behaviour may result in added supervision, shortened participation, early return to shore, or trip cancellation where appropriate.

Medical and Emergency Information

- Before the trip, the parent or guardian must disclose allergies, required medications, medical conditions relevant to trip safety, and behavioural or developmental information that may affect supervision or emergency response.
- In an emergency, Capital Region Fishing Charters may provide reasonable first aid, contact emergency services, contact the parent or guardian or emergency contact, and end the trip and return to shore immediately.

Boundaries, Photos, and Reporting Concerns

- Guides and staff must maintain professional boundaries with minors at all times.
- Physical contact must be limited to what is reasonable and necessary for safety, instruction, first aid, or emergency response.
- Photos or videos of minors will only be taken or used with parent or guardian consent and in a respectful and appropriate manner.
- Any concern involving the safety, supervision, treatment, or conduct of a minor must be reported immediately to the owner or operator. If there is immediate danger, call 911.

Right to Refuse or End Participation

Capital Region Fishing Charters reserves the right to refuse, limit, or end a minor's participation if required documents are incomplete, safe supervision cannot be maintained, conditions are not appropriate, behaviour creates a safety risk, or medical or other concerns make participation unsafe.

Review and Training

This policy should be reviewed regularly, included in staff orientation, and used alongside the safety briefing, risk management plan, waiver, and emergency response procedures.

Owner / Operator	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Employee / Guide	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____

This document is a general internal policy template and may need review against insurer, legal, or program-specific requirements that apply to your business.