

## SECTION 1 - CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

***The Scottish Sub Aqua Club* is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children in its care. It recognises the responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation.**

**Staff and volunteers will work together to embrace difference and diversity and respect the rights of children and young people.**

**This document outlines *The Scottish Sub Aqua Club* commitment to protecting children.**

These guidelines are based on the following principles:

- The welfare of children is the primary concern.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm and abuse.
- Child protection is everyone's responsibility.
- Children have the right to express views on all matters which affect them, should they wish to do so.
- Organisations shall work in partnership together with children and parents to promote the welfare, health and development of children.

***The Scottish Sub Aqua Club* will:**

- Promote the health and welfare of children by providing opportunities for them to take part in Sub Aqua safely.
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of children.
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well being of children and protect them from abuse.
- Recruit, train, support and supervise its staff, members and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children from abuse and to reduce risk to themselves.
- Require staff, members and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and these procedures.
- Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse of children in line with this Policy and these procedures as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- Observe guidelines issued by local Child Protection Committees for the protection of children.
- Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy and these procedures.

### **Review**

This Policy and these Procedures will be regularly reviewed:

- In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection of children or following any changes within ***The Scottish Sub Aqua Club***.
- Following any issues or concerns raised about the protection of children within ***The Scottish Sub Aqua Club***.
- In all other circumstances, at least every three years.