



Norfolk Paddle Meet Up

Norfolk Paddle Meet Up

Safe Guarding Policy 2025

“Making people safer paddlers since 2019”

By The Captain Baldie (Founder)

Who are Norfolk Paddle Meet Up

A local social group to Norfolk created to bring people together.

All the admin team are qualified from instructor level through to coach level under the Paddle UK (PUK) guidance.

A fully insured PUK affiliated club, who's safety push is second to none.

Organising safety days, training, coaching, fund raising and environmental awareness.

Over 3000 members are now part of this fun friendly family, who all have the same agenda, safer paddling, lots of fun but with the mindset that our playground needs caring for.

You can find us on Facebook - Norfolk paddle meet-up

Direct contact for The Captain Baldie

07415-905357

Bookings@baldiesboards.co.uk

T1 Safeguarding Policy

Norfolk Paddle Meet Up - Safeguarding Policy

1. Policy Statement

Norfolk Paddle Meet Up (NPMU) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its members, participants, and volunteers. We believe that everyone, regardless of age, ability, disability, gender, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, or socio-economic background, has the right to enjoy paddlesport in a safe and inclusive environment.

We follow and promote the safeguarding principles and guidelines set by Paddle UK (formerly British Canoeing), and we expect all club members and volunteers to share this commitment.

2. Purpose of This Policy

- To protect children (under 18s), and adults at risk from harm or abuse while participating in Norfolk Paddle Meet Up activities.**
 - To provide staff, volunteers, and members with the principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.**
-

3. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All members of Norfolk Paddle Meet Up**

- **Coaches, leaders, volunteers, and participants**
 - **Any activity organised under the Norfolk Paddle Meet Up name or banner**
-

4. Responsibilities

Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO)

- **Our designated Club Safeguarding Officer is the main point of contact for all safeguarding concerns within the club.**
- **The CSO ensures that all concerns are handled in line with Paddle UK guidance and liaises with the National Safeguarding Team where necessary.**

Current CSO Contact: [Insert Name] – [Insert Contact Number/Email]

All Club Members and Volunteers

Everyone has a duty of care to:

- **Prioritise the welfare of all participants**
 - **Report any safeguarding concerns promptly**
 - **Treat others with respect and dignity**
 - **Ensure activities are age-appropriate and safe**
-

5. Recognising Abuse

Abuse can take many forms, including:

- **Physical**
- **Emotional**
- **Sexual**
- **Neglect**
- **Bullying (including cyberbullying)**
- **Discriminatory abuse**
- **Financial abuse (for adults at risk)**

If you suspect abuse, do not ignore it. Report it to the Club Safeguarding Officer or directly to Paddle UK's National Safeguarding Team.

6. Safer Activities and Environments

We will:

- **Risk assess all club activities**
 - **Ensure adult supervision ratios are appropriate**
 - **Use a buddy system or register where applicable**
 - **Require parental/guardian consent for all under-18s**
 - **Only allow qualified coaches and leaders to run sessions**
 - **Follow Paddle UK guidance on overnight trips and transport**
-

7. Safer Recruitment

Norfolk Paddle Meet Up will:

- **Request enhanced DBS checks for those working with under-18s or adults at risk**
 - **Require references and follow Paddle UK's volunteer code of conduct**
 - **Provide safeguarding training where appropriate**
-

8. Responding to Concerns

- **Listen carefully and calmly**
- **Reassure the person and do not promise confidentiality**
- **Record everything factually (time, date, what was said/done)**
- **Report to the Club Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible**

If the concern is urgent or involves immediate danger, contact emergency services on 999 and inform the CSO afterward.

9. Whistleblowing

Anyone with concerns about the behaviour of someone within the club (including coaches or leaders) should report their concern without fear of reprisal. The club supports a culture of openness and accountability.

10. Reviewing This Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually or:

- **After any safeguarding incident**
- **When legislation or Paddle UK guidance changes**
- **If the structure or membership of the club changes significantly**

Policy last reviewed: 2nd June 2025

Next review due: 2nd June 2026

Supporting Contacts

- **Paddle UK Safeguarding Team:
safeguarding@paddleuk.org.uk**
 - **NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000**
 - **Childline: 0800 1111**
 - **Ann Craft Trust (Adults at Risk): 0115 951
5400**
-

Signed

**Club Chair: _The Cpt Baldie (Aka D.Reeve)-Coach
Date: 2nd June 2025**

**Club Safeguarding Officer: Suzanne Evans -
Instructor
Date: 2nd June 2025**

Call 999 in a river emergency. In non-emergencies, contact Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service online.

Sea emergencies - call 999 and ask for the coast guard.

General Safety Information regarding paddle sport can be found on the PUK website sport can be found on the PUK website

<https://paddleuk.org.uk/stand-up-paddleboard-sup-safety-choosing-the-right-leash/>

Blue Green Algae advice

https://www.ceh.ac.uk/sites/default/files/documents/BlueGreenAlgae_Poster_Web-RGB.pdf

Environmental issue reporting information

<https://www.gov.uk/report-environmental-problem>