

Seaford Photographic Society

Safeguarding Policy

INTRODUCTION

This Safeguarding Policy applies to all members of Seaford Photographic Society. The club takes very seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of vulnerable individuals (children under 18, young people and vulnerable adults) entrusted to its care. Each member has a responsibility to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of such people. Members must report any abuse or suspected abuse if discovered. Each member must read, understand, and undertake to observe this policy. There is no requirement for any member to be DBS (formerly CRB) checked.

The objectives of the policy are:

- To keep all vulnerable individuals and those who work with them safe from harm.
- To take all reasonable efforts to ensure that vulnerable individual who is a member of SPS is never subjected to any form of abuse by SPS members.
- To know the procedures to follow in the event of any concern about a vulnerable individual's welfare, or if there are complaints/allegations of abuse made.

MEMBERSHIP

Whilst we welcome anybody over the age of 16, the club requires written permission from a parent or legal guardian for a person under the age of 18 to become a member. This permission must be provided on the membership application form, which should be signed by both the applicant and parent or guardian, who must also agree to pay the relevant membership subscription.

Any member under the age of 18 attending club meetings must be accompanied at all times by a parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult nominated by the parent or guardian. This also applies to travel to and from meetings or activities, including outside events under the control of the club. The parent or guardian does not need to be a club member.

Vulnerable adults including visitors, who normally have the services of a carer, must be accompanied throughout meetings by the carer and will be responsible for making their own transport arrangements. The carer is not expected to be a member of the Society unless they play an active and independent part in the Society's activities.

GENERAL

Whilst the portrayal of the nude form is an established and valid form of photography, people under 18 should not be encouraged to view or capture such images during club activities. It should be borne in mind that it is illegal to show 'indecent' photographs to anyone under 18. This does not

mean that young people should be barred from club sessions where nude images may be displayed but no undue emphasis should be given to the subject.

No members under 18 are to be photographed at SPS meetings without the written consent of the parent or guardian. Any such photographs and identification of the subject will not be shared on social media or the club's website without permission of their parent or legal guardian.

REPORTING

The well-being of vulnerable individuals is paramount at all times. If there is a concern of abuse by any member within SPS it must be reported immediately to the Chairman or Secretary who, together with other committee members as appropriate, will then decide the best course of action.

Approved Version, 6th August 2021