



COVENTRY GODIVA HARRIERS

FOUNDED 1879

NON-RECENT ABUSE POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this policy is to provide information and support to victims of historical abuse, including how to report with the appropriate authorities, and where to seek help and advice. The policy also informs Club volunteers on what to do if they encounter a disclosure of non-recent abuse.

We wish to reassure members past or present that the Club believes all athletes should have a safe environment to train and compete. This policy is based on guidance from the Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) and provides links to local authorities in Coventry.

CPSU: WHAT IS NON-RECENT ABUSE?

There are a few terms that are used to describe this kind of abuse, such as historic abuse and non-recent child abuse, and these are sometimes used interchangeably. These terms are commonly used to refer to disclosures of sexual abuse that were perpetrated in the past.

Many survivors of abuse say that they are still impacted and traumatised by abuse many years after the abuse ended. With this in mind we prefer to use the term non-recent abuse as for many people impacted by abuse it is non 'historical' and those who committed the abuse may still represent a real and ongoing risk to children.

It can also be about an allegation of neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse from someone who is now 18 years or over, relating to an incident that took place when the alleged survivor was under 18 years old.

Allegations can be:

- an adult making an allegation of abuse when they were under 18 years of age, that occurred at least one year before it was reported.
- a child making an allegation of abuse that occurred at least one year before it was reported
- an individual who reports an allegation, on behalf of another child or adult, that occurred at least one year before it was reported.

ADVICE, SUPPORT & REPORTING PROCEDURES

If you are aware of non-recent abuse, worried about a child or young person who might be harmed, you should report your concerns. You'll be asked for your details, but you can choose not to share them.

Emergency

If a child is in immediate danger you should contact the police: 999

Social Worker (Out of Hours): 02476 83 2222

Non Emergency

If there is no immediate danger or you need advice or information, you should call Coventry's Referral and Assessment Service:

02476 78 8555 (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) or email: MASH@coventry.gov.uk

(Continued Page 2)



If you want to discuss your concerns or need advice e.g.; if you are not sure whether your concerns are justified, you would like more information about issues like confidentiality, or you would like to know what happens after you have reported your concerns do one of the following:

Call Childline on 0800 1111 (Free)

Call NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000

The National Association for People Abused in Childhood ([NAPAC](#)) offers support to adult survivors of all types of abuse.

Coventry Godiva Harriers have two Welfare Officers – Jayne and Job – who can be contacted about any concerns: welfare@coventry-godiva-harriers.co.uk. Club Coaches and Committee members have also undertaken Welfare & Safeguarding training.

Please also refer to Club documents:

- CGH Welfare Policy

When receiving information about non-recent abuse, the Club will seek to obtain the following:

- name and contact details of the person making the allegation, considering if the individual wishes to remain anonymous
- name of the individual who the allegation is about and any other identifying information, including location
- name of any children or other victims involved
- date and time of when the abuse occurred
- key information about the nature of the non-recent abuse allegation
- establish, where possible if the alleged perpetrator is still working with or caring for children
- establish whether other agencies are involved

Where allegations concern UKA Coaches, Officials & Team Managers, details will also be shared with the [UKA Welfare Department](#) – the National Governing Body for Athletics.

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