

# Grand Western Archery Society Child and Vulnerable Persons Policy

## Introduction

The objective of this policy is to establish the post of Regional Protection Officer and provide guidelines that will ensure that children and vulnerable adults are free from abuse, bullying and harassment whilst participating in archery and its associated events in accordance with current government legislation.

## Regional Protection Officer

GWAS will establish and maintain the post of a Protection Officer who will provide advice when called upon to; society members, clubs and county associations on child and vulnerable person's protection.

## Guidelines

To ensure that children and vulnerable adults can safely participate in the sport of archery it is recommended that clubs and archery organisations within the region adopt the following guidelines.

1. No child or vulnerable adult will be allowed to attend any "Archery Event" without a "Responsible Sponsor" being "In Attendance" at all times.
2. At no time will a child or vulnerable person be in the sole company of a member of the society unless that member is that person's responsible sponsor.
3. No activity, other than the normal social interactions of shaking of hands, the giving/receiving of prizes/equipment/money/refreshments etc. involving any physical contact with the child or vulnerable adult will take place without prior approval of, and observation by, the "Responsible Sponsor".
4. All members of GWAS who may need to have physical contact with the child or vulnerable person, whilst participating in an Archery Event, will undertake a "CRB" vetting via the GNAS Protection Officer. (this is mainly Coaches, Team Managers and Team Support Officials)
5. All members of GWAS are tasked with reporting any incidents that could be construed as abuse, bullying or harassment to the Tournament Organiser at a competition or a Club officer at a club event. The Tournament organiser or Club Officer will establish the facts concerning the incident, taking statements where necessary and reporting all the findings to the GNAS Protection Officer. Any person not carrying out this directive will be deemed to be complicit in the offence.
6. Any substantiated report will be passed to the to the Police authority in the area of the incident by the GNAS Child Protection Officer.

## Definitions

1. Child—Any person under the age of 18.
2. Vulnerable Adult – Any person aged 18 or over who needs support/care because of their disability, age or illness.
3. Archery Event – An archery event is a Have-a-Go, beginner’s course, club shooting day, competition or social event organised by GNAS, or any GNAS recognised, Club, County, Region, Home Nation or GNAS Affiliated Organisation.
4. Responsible Sponsor – Is:
  - The Childs Parent/Guardian or a member of the society who has a written agreement by the Childs Parent/Guardian that they can act on their behalf.
  - Or
  - The Vulnerable adult’s carer, or a member of the society who has a written agreement by that person’s carer that they can act on their behalf.
5. In Attendance – The Responsible Sponsor must always be:
  - On the field at target, flight and clout events.
  - In the same shooting group at a field event.
  - Present at a social event.