



Safeguarding Strategy

2022-2025



Building a Safer Culture

- Introduction
- Scope
- Aims of the Strategy
- Scale & Reach
- Areas of Focus
 - Leadership & Governance
 - Safeguarding Standards
 - Education
 - Prevention
 - Protection
- Reporting Concerns
- Further Information & Support Available

Introduction

The purpose of this Safeguarding Strategy is to document how Motorsport UK intends to move towards a culture where safety and wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do.

As a National Governing Body we have a statutory responsibility to keep children, young people and adults at risk, safe from harm. By observing and learning from what has happened in other sports (and our own) we know that sporting environments aren't as safe as they should or could be. We are determined to change that – we want parents and guardians to be confident that their children will be looked after and kept safe while they are participating in motorsport; we want our Officials and Marshals to know that they will be safe and respected when volunteering regardless of any additional needs that may have; and we want children to know who they can turn to if they feel unsafe in the motorsport environment (whether they're participating in person or online).

To make sure that we are meeting our legal and moral duties, Motorsport UK commissioned an independent review in 2022, this resulted in a series of recommendations which, once completed will ensure that safeguarding is appropriately embedded throughout the sport. However, we also recognise that safeguarding is not static, it requires ongoing commitment, engagement and development to ensure that poor and/ or abusive behaviours are not allowed anywhere within our sport.

This strategy sets out how we will move forward on our journey, starting with making sure we have the procedures and practices in place, through to developing a culture which encourages open conversations and learning to take place. Everyone has a role to play in safeguarding, join us on this journey and help to shape the future of our sport.



Scope

As a National Governing Body we have a duty to safeguard children and young people. This duty is set out in the Children Act (2004) which states that when providing services or discharging our functions, we must make arrangements for ensuring that we **“have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.”**

This is further reinforced in statutory guidance ‘Working Together to Safeguard Children’ (2018) which states that Sports Organisations:

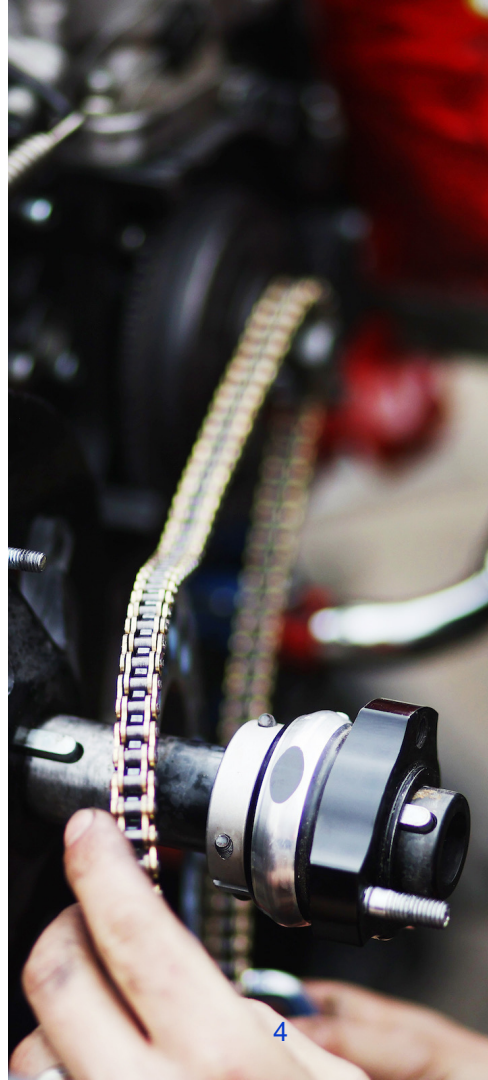
“should collaborate to work effectively with the safeguarding partners as required by any local safeguarding arrangements. Paid and volunteer staff need to be aware of their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, how they should respond to child protection concerns and how to make a referral to local authority children’s social care or the police if necessary.”

The Care Act (2014) sets out the criteria for how organisations should work collaboratively with local authorities to protect adults who are at risk of abuse or neglect.

To meet our legal responsibilities, this safeguarding strategy will apply to:

- Motorsport UK
- Motorsport UK Registered Marshals, Licenced Officials and Volunteers
- All Championships hosted and licenced by Motorsport UK and the teams racing within them
- All venues permitted by Motorsport UK
- All Clubs, Regional Associations, Teams and communities
- All Academy students and any drivers on the elite performance pathway

Although Motorsport UK has no influence over motorsport that falls outside of our regulations, it is recommended that any unregulated clubs aim to implement the themes documented within this report.



Aims of the Strategy

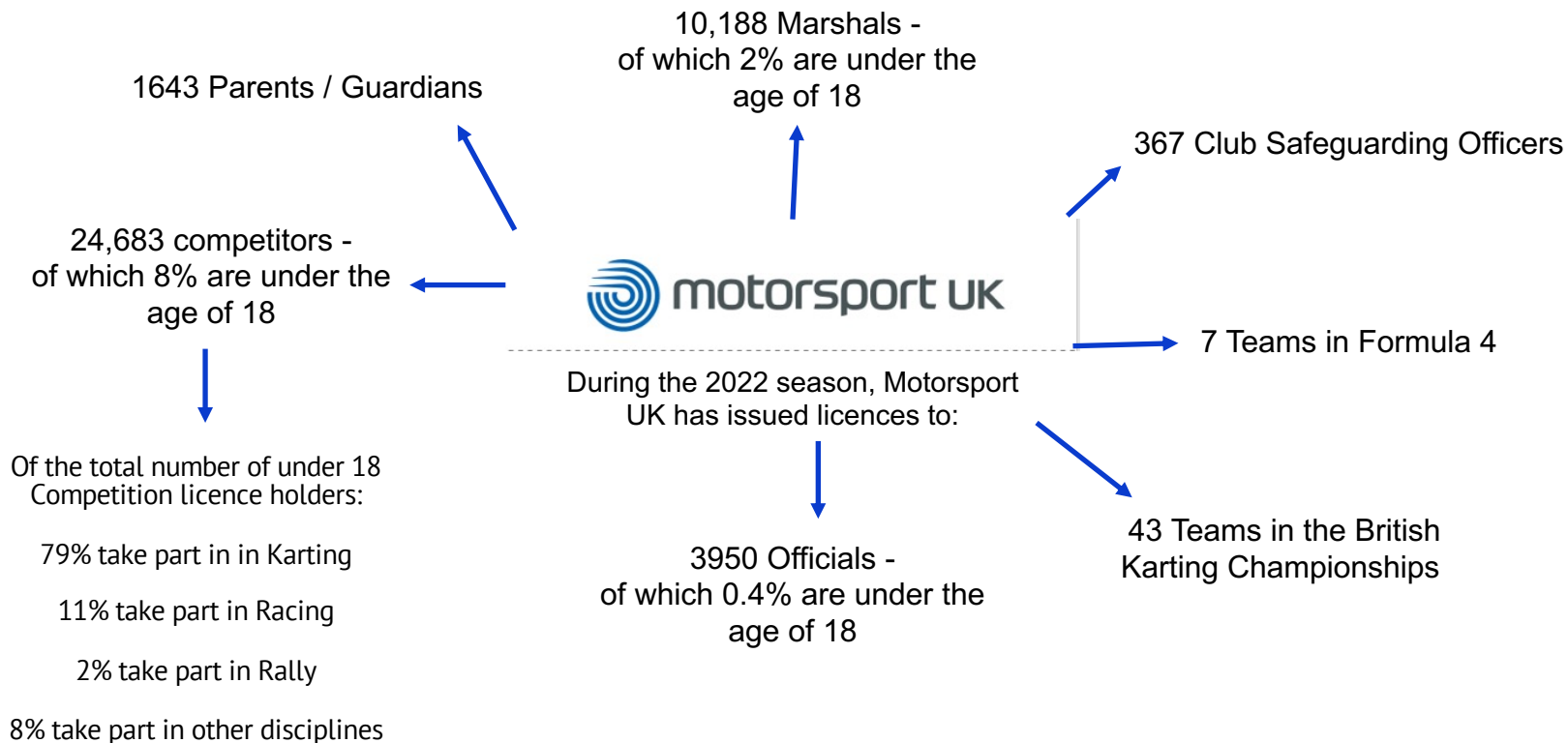
Completion of the work set out in this strategy, will ensure that we move from managing risks to preventing them from happening. This will happen by:

- Being a leading voice across all Motorsport UK clubs and the motorsport communities, setting standards and encouraging compliance to instil best practice in order to keep people safe.
- Responding appropriately, fairly and consistently to the needs of children and young people, placing their needs at the centre of everything we do.
- Providing appropriate levels of support to our communities so they feel confident and capable in their safeguarding duties.
- Ensuring that the right processes are in place which prohibit people who are deemed unsuitable to work in regulated activity from doing so.
- Providing easy-to-access reporting mechanisms so that when risks are identified they are reported quickly and securely.
- Conducting and completing thorough and timely investigations, working in collaboration with statutory agencies where appropriate.
- Listening to our stakeholders and learning from the investigations we undertake.





Scale and Reach



Areas of Concern 2022 - 2025



Leadership

We will ensure that all leaders, Board members and Committee's, operating nationally, regionally and locally are educated and informed in order to progress and enhance Motorsport UK's response to keeping people safe.



Safeguarding Standards

We will clearly demonstrate and communicate the standards we expect to see to ensure that all members of the Motorsport UK community have safeguarding at the heart of their activities.



Education

We will provide educational and informative resources to upskill and develop our community, enabling all Competitors, Officials, Staff, and others involved in our sport to be able to recognise, respond to and report concerns.



Prevention

We will have Safer Recruitment processes and practices embedded across motorsport to reduce the risk of harm from occurring within motorsport environments.



Protection

We will embed a culture of listening to and understanding the people who make up our communities. We will provide clear reporting routes and robust procedures to ensure the appropriate and proportionate management of safeguarding concerns.

Areas of Concern 2022 - 2025

We will ensure that all leaders, Board members and Committee's, operating nationally, regionally and locally are educated and informed in order to progress and enhance Motorsport UK's response to keeping people safe.

Quarterly reports will be provided to the Board to inform them of risks and themes. This will include analysis of safeguarding concerns, ensuring that issues affecting different parts of the sport are understood, responded to and used to inform the future strategic direction.

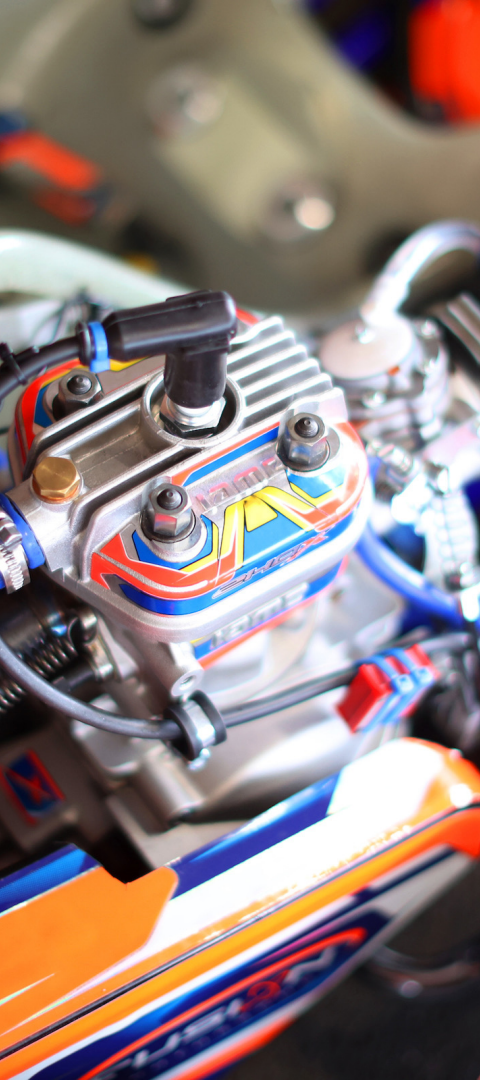
Board members and Directors will complete Safeguarding training on appointment and every three years to equip them with the knowledge they need to understand where safeguarding fits within their area of responsibility.

A public-facing annual report will provide robust and insightful data, information on practices and lessons learned to drive the delivery of the strategy.

Quarterly meetings will take place between the Safeguarding team and locally based Club Safeguarding Officers to ensure localised implementation of the Motorsport UK strategy, policy and procedures.

All Motorsport UK staff and volunteers will complete the 'Safeguarding Awareness' e-learning training module as part of their induction.

The Safeguarding team will attend Committee meetings and Regional Association meetings to provide an update on progress.



Safeguarding Standards

We will clearly demonstrate and communicate the standards we expect to see to ensure that all members of the Motorsport UK community have safeguarding at the heart of their activities.

- At a national level we will aim to meet the standards set by the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit and will complete an annual self-assessment against the NSPCC standards.
- Motorsport UK will provide clubs with a safeguarding toolkit which will provide guidance on how to meet standards in relation to their Safeguarding Policy and Procedure, the role of the Club Safeguarding Officer, reporting processes, and records.
- All Clubs will be provided with a checklist by which they can complete a self-assessment, the aim being to review their practices and set targets to strive towards. In future years safeguarding standards will be integrated into the annual safety audit.
- Motorsport UK Teams will be encouraged to meet the criteria set out in a safeguarding framework, those who comply will be issued with a Safeguarding endorsement to evidence they meet the criteria.
- Venues, race tracks and other providers permitted and licenced by Motorsport UK must evidence they meet set safeguarding standards.
- The safeguarding team will provide guidance on specific safeguarding requirements within commercial contracts.

Education

We will provide educational and informative resources to upskill and develop our community, enabling all Competitors, Officials, Staff, and others involved in our sport to be able to recognise, respond to and report concerns.

- A tailored suite of courses will be designed and made accessible to Officials and Clubs to support them in their role of preventing harm and protecting children and adults at risk.
- Training dates will be advertised on the website along with an additional programme of webinars which will respond to themes and specific risk areas.
- Informative resources will be made accessible via the Club toolkit providing educational resources and 'how to' guides on safeguarding in Motorsport.
- The website will provide key messages to educate the whole Motorsport UK community on the safeguarding risks present in Motorsport, the steps that have been taken to mitigate these risks, and how to report concerns.
- Specific resources will be designed for children, young people and their parents/guardians so they are aware of the steps they can take to stay safe and to inform them of how they can report any concerns.
- Tailored documents will be available for young people, non-recent victims of abuse, parents and guardians, and adults at risk, signposting them to support services.





Prevention

Safer Recruitment processes and practices will be embedded across motorsport to reduce the risk of harm from occurring within motorsport environments.

- A risk-based and prioritised delivery plan for suitability checks will continue to prevent unsuitable people from working in regulated activity with children and young people.
- Suitability checks will be a licence condition for people working in 'regulated activity'. Regulations will reinforce that people without suitability checks are prohibited from working in roles which meet this criteria.
- Clubs will be educated on the roles requiring suitability checks and their responsibility for checking their workforce. Motorsport UK will provide additional oversight and reviews of compliance.
- Accredited Coaches will be required to complete a safeguarding module in order to complete their Accelerator Award. Suitability checks will be mandated for all Coaches.
- Safeguarding requirements will be built into all Motorsport UK events. Every event must have a safeguarding plan which details the risk assessments and safeguarding measures in place.

Protection

Motorsport UK will embed a culture of listening to and understanding the people who make up our communities. We will provide clear reporting routes and robust procedures to ensure the appropriate and proportionate management of safeguarding concerns.

- Easy to use reporting mechanisms will be available to enable all stakeholders to report concerns about poor practice, unacceptable behaviours and abuse.
- A case management system will be introduced to appropriately and safely store information, enabling risk-based decisions to be made and themes identified. The digital solution will integrate with the licencing system to ensure that those who are suspended are no longer able to pose a risk to others in the sport.
- A safeguarding case management procedure will be published to provide transparent explanation of how decisions are made.
- Engagement opportunities will be used to gain insightful feedback and ensure we are learning from people's experiences.
- Post-incident support will be offered to our Officials, Marshals and other volunteers following attendance at serious incidents.





Reporting Concerns

- Anyone who has a concern about the welfare or safety of a child or adult at risk must report it.
- If there is an immediate risk, report it to the police and social care services in your area.

- If there is no immediate risk of harm, speak with the Club Safeguarding Officer and explain your concerns.
- Alternatively you can contact the Motorsport UK Safeguarding Team by emailing safeguarding@motorsportuk.org or by completing the reporting form on the website www.motorsportuk.org/the-sport/safeguarding/

- If you are worried about the behaviour of an adult towards an under 18 involved in Motorsport, you can report this to the Motorsport UK Safeguarding Team by emailing safeguarding@motorsportuk.org
- Anonymous reports can be made online via Race with Respect www.motorsportuk.org/racewithrespect/
- Victims of non-recent abuse can contact the Motorsport UK Safeguarding Team or NAPAC for advice, guidance and support [NAPAC – Supporting Recovery From Childhood Abuse](#)

Further Information & Support Available

Motorsport UK Safeguarding Team

- www.motorsportuk.org/the-sport/safeguarding/
- safeguarding@motorsportuk.org

Help, support and information for children

- [Childline | Childline](#)

24 hour advice line for children experiencing or worried about abuse

- [NSPCC | The UK children's charity | NSPCC](#)

Advice and guidance for reporting online sexual abuse

- [CEOP Safety Centre](#)

Support for non-recent victims of abuse

- [Child abuse - Survivors \(supportline.org.uk\)](#)
- [NAPAC – Supporting Recovery From Childhood Abuse](#)

