

Blythe Angling and Conservation Society

Part 1 Draft Safeguarding Policy

Blythe Angling and Conservation Society (BAACS) is keen to promote angling for young people. This draft policy sets out our approach to the safeguarding of young people who may be fishing the club waters, River Blythe contained within Packington Estate, Warwickshire 'the river'.

Ordinarily any young people fishing the river will do so under the direct supervision of a parent (or guardian/carer) who will remain present on the river for the duration of the visit. Under certain circumstances a young person aged between 16 years and 18 years may fish the river unaccompanied and with the direct permission of their parent (or guardian). To this end BAACs will adopt the principles of safeguarding outlined in the Angling Trust 'Safeguarding Children and Young People in Angling' (updated 2018) in particular the key principle that a child's welfare is of paramount consideration and that we all have a responsibility to keep children and young people safe.

Circumstances where a young person may fish the river unaccompanied. A child (or ward) of a member may join the club as a full member at the age of 16 years and on payment of the current membership fees and so fish the water as a full member in their own right. That young member will also have full voting rights as a full member of BAACS. The only requirement will be that the parent (or guardian) will have satisfied themselves that the prospective young member is aware of the risks of fishing (in particular undercut banks and wading) and that a permission is given to join the club as a full member. This is a one-time permission and not required for every fishing trip although good practice is that someone within the family is informed that the young person is fishing (this is good practice for all members)

It is not generally envisaged that a young member will engage in working parties on the river in their own right, however there is nothing to stop the young member vising on such occasions in company with their family member.

Part 2 young member fees

A person aged 16 years to 18 years and who is the child (or ward) of a full member may join BAACS as a full member on payment of the current fee. This young member may join without payment of the one-time joining fee which normally paid by an adult member when joining BAACS. Although the young member enjoys the rights of full membership, they are not entitled to guest tickets until they are over 18 years.

Part 3 children and young people as guest anglers

A full (adult) member may take a child/young person (under 18 years) as a guest to fish the river without using their 4 guest entitlement as part of their membership. In effect a member may take a child to visit as often as they wish without using up their guest tickets. The child/young person will remain their sole responsibility and be under their supervision for the entire visit. No extra fish allocation will be made for a child/young person fishing with a member and so 'taken' fish will remain within that member's ordinary entitlement.