Welfare Officer report to Cosmics AGM 2025

I am pleased to report that there have been no welfare issues reported to me in 2024-2025.

We do not have any <18 members and so we do not need to make any special arrangements re PVGS etc.

However, I am concerned that there is always the slim possibility that we may have to deal with issues affecting adults in the club and my policy is to follow the advice of the UK ATHLETICS & THE HOME COUNTRY ATHLETICS FEDERATIONS re adult safeguarding procedures. These are very detailed and are available at : https://www.scottishathletics.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Adult-Safeguarding-Policy-2023.pdf

In particular we should follow the advice from Scottish Athletics contained in the document:

- *Scotland (Adult Support and Protection Act 2007) The overarching principle underlying Part 1 of the Act is that any intervention in an individual's affairs should provide benefit to the individual and should be the least restrictive option of those available to meet the purpose of the intervention. This is supported by a set of guiding principles which, together with the overarching principle, must be taken account of when performing functions under Part 1 of the Act. These are:*
- *the wishes and feelings of the adult at risk (past and present)*
- *the views of other significant individuals, such as the adult's nearest relative; their primary carer, guardian or attorney; or any other person with an interest in the adult's wellbeing or property*
- *the importance of the adult taking an active part in the performance of the function under the Act*
- *providing the adult with the relevant information and support to enable them to participate as fully as possible*
- *the importance of ensuring that the adult is not treated less favourably than another adult in a comparable situation*
- *the adult's abilities, background and characteristics (including their age, sex, sexual orientation, gender, religious persuasion, racial origin, ethnic group and cultural and linguistic heritage.*

These principles are set out in full on the club website at the end of the "About Us" section- Codes of Conduct.

RMC/cosmics/welfare/2025