



Member Protection Policy

<p>What</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Arawa Canoe Club is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all members participating in training and events run or supported by the Club. • We recognise our responsibility to promote safe practices that protect members from harm and/or exploitation while participating in our activities. • Coaches, volunteers, and members will work together to embrace difference and diversity and respect the rights of each other.
<p>Policy Principles <i>(What this policy covers)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The welfare of members forms the basis for this policy. • Member protection is everyone's responsibility. • All members, regardless of age, culture, disability, gender, language racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm. • Members have the right to express views on all matters which affect them, should they wish to do so. • The club will work in partnership with athletes and coaches to promote the welfare, health, and development of our members.
<p>Policy aims; <i>(What good looks like)</i></p>	<p>The aim of this policy is to promote good practice, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting the health and welfare of members by providing opportunities for them to take part in training and events safely, • Respecting and promoting the rights, wishes and feelings of members, • Promoting and implementing appropriate procedures to safeguard the well-being of members and protect them from harm, • Recruiting, training, supporting, encouraging, and supervising coaches, members, and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect members from harm and to reduce the risk of allegations or complaints against themselves. • Requiring members, coaches, support staff and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Policy and the Arawa Code of Conduct, • Responding to any allegations of misconduct or harm to members in line with this Policy and these procedures, as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant investigative, disciplinary and appeals procedures, • Regularly monitoring and evaluating the implementation of this Policy and its procedures.



<p>The role of the Membership Protection Officer (MPO)</p>	<p>An MPO is appointed for the Club and contact details are communicated via newsletter updates and on the club website. The primary role of the MPO is to be available as an objective channel to manage membership protection issues.</p> <p>Main duties/responsibilities include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that membership protection procedures are understood and adhered to by all members and staff via the Club Committee, • Organising promotional activities, training and raising awareness within the organisation via the Club Committee, • Establishing and maintaining the complaints procedure, • Reporting to the Committee (if appropriate), • Acting as the main contact and support for membership protection matters, • Maintaining confidential records of reported cases and any action taken, • Regularly monitoring and reviewing existing policies and procedures.
<p>Complaint and Investigative process <i>(What to do if you have a concern)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact the MPO and talk through your concerns. 2. You may be required to put your concerns in writing. 3. The MPO will investigate and act as appropriate, to gather all facts relating to the matter. 4. Allegations that have factual substance will have a resolution process in place, which may involve external agencies/parties as deemed necessary. 5. The MPO will advise the Club President when there has been a complaint made (without releasing any details to maintain objectivity). 6. Any details of matters arising/outcomes from investigations will be disclosed to the Club President as appropriate to ensure continuing policy updates and member protection.