**National Autograss Sport Association Safeguarding Children Policy**

1. **Introduction:**

The National Autograss Sport Association (NASA) believes that all children have the right to be safe and enjoy their involvement in Autograss racing. NASA is committed to helping and supporting all members to accept their personal and collective responsibility to safeguard children from harm or abuse.

NASA is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all children to participate in Autograss. This policy is applicable to all participants involved in NASA events or activities.

**For the purposes of this policy the term “child” refers to any individual under the age of 18 years.**

1. **NASA Policy Statement:**

* The welfare of the child is paramount.
* All children have the right to protection from harm and abuse of any type.
* All reports of harm and/or abuse and related concerns will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly and appropriately.
* All members required to work in partnership to promote the welfare, health, safety and development of children.

1. **NASA will seek to safeguard children by:**

* Valuing, listening to and respecting them.
* Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know.
* Appointing NASA Safeguarding Officers who will be accessible via a NASA director to all Autograss officials and club members.

1. **NASA recognises that children and young people may suffer abuse in different ways:**

* **Physical abuse** is when someone hurts or harms a child or young person on purpose.
* **Emotional abuse** is any type of abuse that involves the continual emotional mistreatment of a child.
* **Neglect** is the on-going failure to meet a child's basic needs.
* **Sexual** abuse is when a child is forced or tricked into sexual activities.

1. **NASA will respond to suspicions or reports of abuse by:**

* Appointing NASA Official Safeguarding Officers to whom concerns can be reported.
* All Safeguarding Officers will hold a valid Disclosure and Baring (DBS) Certificate.
* Ensuring the contact details of safeguarding officers are accessible to all Autograss officials and club members.
* Engaging with the person reporting the concern respectfully and informing them of the proposed next step as per NASA Concerns Reporting Procedure document.
* Collecting information around the concern to ensure detailed and accurate reporting.
* Providing the NASA Safegarding Officers with access to appropraite personal information about the child, this will include the child’s full name, date of birth and address.
* The NASA Safegarding Officer wlll upon receipt of the childs address determine the correct Local Safeguarding Children’s Board (LSCB) to report the concerns to.
* The NASA Safegarding Officer will take resposibilty for sharing the concern with the correct Local Safeguarding Children’s Board. Or, where appropriate, will contact 999 emergency services for an immediate response.

1. **NASA acknowledges that the welfare of the child is paramount:**

* Privacy, confidentiality and data protection will be respected where possible but if doing this leaves a child is at risk of harm, the child’s safety will take priority.
* NASA recognises the roles and responsibilities of statutory agencies in the safeguarding of children and will comply with requests from Local Children Safeguarding Boards to provide any additional information accordingly.

1. **NASA advises all participants this includes all official, license holders and spectators:**

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| **Any participant in autograss who would like to share concerns regarding the safety of wellbeing of a child that does NOT require immediate attention from emergency services can report concerns and request a call from a safeguarding officer via email or telephone.**  **NASA Safeguarding Officers 2022**  Daryll Smart - NASA Director  Diane Tomkinson - NASA Director  Lisa Perry - NASA Children and Young Peoples Advisor  **NASA concern reporting email.**  [safeguarding@national-autograss.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@national-autograss.co.uk) |

1. **NASA has produced a standard operation procedure for safeguarding officers and will continue to review the procedure annually to ensure that it remains inline with national safeguarding children’s guidelines.**

* Policy ratified by NASA board of directors January 2022.