

## **Black Scorpion Karate CIC Safeguarding Adults Policy**

**Policy Owner:** Paul Selby

**Policy Approved by:** Board of Directors

**Date Policy Approved:** 3/10/24

**Next Review Date:** 3/10/25

### **Introduction**

Black Scorpion Karate CIC is committed to safeguarding adults in line with national legislation and relevant guidelines. We strive to ensure that all our activities are conducted in a way that promotes safety and well-being for everyone. As a club affiliated with the Cobra Martial Arts Association (CMAA), we are dedicated to creating a culture of zero-tolerance towards harm to adults, recognising those at risk, and understanding how abuse or neglect can manifest. Our commitment extends to recognising harm in all settings, including within our activities, other community engagements, and the individual's home.

### **Policy Statement**

Black Scorpion Karate CIC believes that everyone has the right to live free from abuse or neglect, regardless of age, ability, disability, gender, race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital, or gender status. We are committed to maintaining a safe and positive environment where concerns can be shared without fear of retribution.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and we will take appropriate measures to prevent abuse and neglect while safeguarding the welfare of all adults involved in our activities. We recognise that factors like health, well-being, disability, and support needs can impact an individual's resilience and may present communication barriers when raising concerns. As such, we acknowledge our role in acting within the legal safeguarding framework to protect those who are unable to safeguard themselves.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Demonstrate Black Scorpion Karate CIC's commitment to safeguarding adults.
- Ensure that everyone involved in our club understands their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding adults.
- Provide guidelines on what to do or who to speak to if concerns arise regarding the welfare or well-being of an adult within our club.

### **Scope**

This policy applies to all individuals involved in Black Scorpion Karate CIC, including Board members, staff, coaches, volunteers, and members. It extends to all concerns regarding the safety of adults within our club's activities and the wider community.

We also expect our partner organisations, affiliated clubs, suppliers, and sponsors to adopt and demonstrate their commitment to the principles and practices set out in this policy.

## **Commitments**

In order to implement this policy, Black Scorpion Karate CIC will ensure that:

1. **Awareness:** Everyone involved with the club is aware of the safeguarding procedures and knows who to contact if they are concerned about an adult's welfare or well-being.
2. **Response:** Any concern about the safety of an adult is taken seriously, responded to promptly, and followed up in line with our safeguarding policies.
3. **Support:** The well-being of those at risk will be prioritised, with active support for individuals to communicate their views and desired outcomes.
4. **Confidentiality:** We will maintain detailed and accurate records of safeguarding concerns, stored securely in accordance with our Data Protection Policy.
5. **Compliance:** We act in accordance with best practice guidance from CMAA, NSPCC, and other relevant organisations.
6. **Cooperation:** Black Scorpion Karate CIC will cooperate with police and relevant local authorities, including Wigan Council, in taking action to safeguard adults. Sensei Paul, who serves as a Special Constable with Cheshire Police, will also liaise with law enforcement as necessary.
7. **Training:** All staff will be offered appropriate safeguarding training on an annual basis. This training will be provided through the local authority depending on the area in which the staff member lives/works. The NSPCC course will be undertaken if no local authority training is available.
8. **Recruitment:** We use safe recruitment practices to prevent unsuitable individuals from working within our club.
9. **Information Sharing:** We share relevant information about individuals found to pose a risk to adults with appropriate bodies.
10. **Risk Assessment:** Risk assessments will be conducted on a case-by-case basis by Sensei Paul or Sensei Sally for squad events as the squad development lead.

11. **Review:** This policy and related procedures will be reviewed annually to ensure they remain current and effective.

## **Implementation**

To ensure this policy is effectively implemented, Black Scorpion Karate CIC will:

- Designate a **Safeguarding Lead/Welfare Officer** responsible for overseeing the implementation of this policy:
  - **Lead Safeguarding Officer:** Paul Selby
    - **Contact Information:** 07713023750 | paul@blackscorpionkarate.co.uk
- Designate a deputy safeguarding officer for events, trips, camps, and competitions:
  - **Deputy Safeguarding Officer:** Becca Selby
    - **Contact Information:** 07850492410 | becca@blackscorpionkarate.co.uk
- Maintain a line of accountability within the club for the safety and welfare of adults.
- Provide access to relevant legal and professional advice.
- Ensure safeguarding procedures effectively address concerns of abuse or neglect.

## **Supporting Information**

Black Scorpion Karate CIC aligns its safeguarding policy with relevant UK legislation. We also have a separate child safeguarding policy in place.

## **Review and Compliance**

This policy and its associated procedures will be reviewed annually or sooner if there are changes in legislation, CMAA guidelines, or any significant incident. The next review date is set for 3/10/25.