



# UK Windsurfing Association

## Managing Challenging Behaviour

### Guidance

UK Windsurfing Association The Long Barn Sutcombe Holsworthy Devon EX22 7PY	Version	February 2025
	Adopted by	The UKWA committee
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## Introduction

Challenging behaviour in this context is defined as behaviour that is disruptive and doesn't allow the UKWA to deliver activity safely and effectively or behaviour that puts another child/ren at risk of harm.

When dealing with challenging behaviour the following principles must be maintained:

- The welfare of the child is paramount
- Children must never be subject to any form of treatment that is harmful, abusive, humiliating or degrading
- A child's specific needs should be discussed with parent (and, where appropriate, the child) before activities start
- Every child should be supported to participate according to their individual needs and social and emotional development

## Young People

1. Be yourself and accepting of others. We're all different, lets celebrate this. Please do not to discriminate against anyone!
2. Be respectful to our equipment and space and, others. Appreciate that everyone has different levels of ability and skill.
3. Try your best, also encourage and support your teammates.
4. Listen to your coach or trainer.
5. Speak out if you feel worried or concerned (including any bullying you may have heard or seen) – reach out to your coach, staff or a parent for support.
6. Bring the correct kit, food and drinks to your practices.
7. Make it to practices or sessions on time – remind an adult of your practices, sessions or competitions, so you're on time.
8. Please do not wander off or leave without telling a member of staff.
9. Do not vape, smoke or consume alcohol during practices, competitions or whist at our space.
10. Respect everyone participating (staff, volunteers, officials and player from all teams).
11. Celebrate successes and be gracious when we lose.
12. Follow our club or activities rules and the rules of the game, sport or activity.
13. Follow our online safety and social media policies and procedures.
14. Have fun and enjoy your time with us

## Parents / Carers / Guardians

As a parent of child taking part in our activity, we'd like you to:

- Take time to talk to your child about their sport or activity
- Listen to your child if they say they don't want to do somethings and ask them why
- Behaviour positively and encourage your child and their peers
- Let your child know you're proud of them
- Respect and accept the official's judgment
- Use social media and aps responsibly when communicating on our channels
- Talk to your child about embracing sportsmanship
- Encourage your child to play by the rules

## **Minor Incidents**

If a behavioural incident is believed to be of a minor nature, then the UKWA should convene a meeting/interview with any sailors or young person involved with an additional adult in attendance. The sailor's or young person's parents should be contacted and informed of any minor incidents.

The UKWA should complete a written report, detailing the incident, any investigation, including the names of any witnesses to the incident and any conclusions found and actions taken. Details of the incident should be retained for a period of 12 months then removed.

## **Major Incidents or Repeated Minor Incidents**

In the case of a repetition of an earlier minor incident or if an incident is believed to be of more than a minor nature, then the UKWA should contact the RYA to resolve the incident.

The UKWA should investigate and establish facts, document the testimony of any witnesses or any other evidence and attempt to identify precisely who is responsible for the infringement, the circumstances around any occurrence and then inform the sailor(s) or young person concerned that they would pass all details to the RYA. The sailor's or young person's parents should be contacted and informed of any major incident or repetition of minor incidents.

## **Responding to Challenging Behaviour**

In responding to challenging behaviour, the response should always be:

- Proportionate to the actions you are managing
- Imposed as soon as is practicable
- Fully explained to the child and their parents
- Recorded – details of what happened, when and how it was responded to

## **Enforcing agreed-upon sanctions for continued challenging behaviour**

In dealing with children who display negative or challenging behaviour the UKWA might consider the following options:

- A time out – from the activity, group or individual
- Reparations – the act or process of making amends
- Restitution – the act of giving something back
- Behaviour reinforcement – rewards for positive behaviour, consequences for negative behaviour
- De-escalation of the situation – talking with the child and distracting them for challenging behaviour
- Increased supervision
- Use of individual contracts or agreements for the child's continued or future participation
- Sanctions or consequences
- Seeking additional or specialised support
- Informing the RYA
- Temporary suspension or permanent exclusion – this should only apply as a last resort and after all efforts to address any challenge have been exhausted, in exceptional circumstances where the safety of that or of other children cannot be maintained

## Unacceptable sanctions for managing challenging behaviour

The following should never be permitted as a means of managing a child's behaviour:

- Physical punishment or the threat of such
- Refusal to speak to or interact with them
- Depriving them of food, water, or access to changing facilities, toilets or other essential facilities
- Verbal intimidation, ridicule or humiliation

## UKWA Terms of Attendance

The UKWA reserves the right to exclude or expel any member / non-member / family / group or individual from its event site should it be considered that they may by their actions or the perception of such bring the UKWA, its hosts other parties or individuals into disrepute.

The UKWA Committee, in part or in its entirety, shall be the sole judge of such action, and their decision is deemed final. Persons expelled shall leave the event site within 30 minutes of any verbal notice and shall not return. Exclusion may be deemed temporary (this event) or permanent (all events). Permanent expulsion shall be the decision of the elected committee and shall be confirmed in writing within 21 days of any temporary expulsion; however, any excluded individual may not attend any UKWA events during this period of consideration.

## Useful Online Support

- RYA website [www.rya.org.uk](http://www.rya.org.uk)
- NSPCC [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

## UKWA Report Form

Date of incident	
Time of incident	
Location / event	
Where did the incident occur?	
Type of incident	
Individuals involved (inc gender / role e.g victim, bystander)	
Summary of incident	
Action taken	