

# POCKLINGTON RUNNERS



## Attendance of Under 18s on Club Nights Policy

### 1.0 Overview

1.1 **This policy covers runners aged 17+ who wish to run with the senior club. Juniors aged under 17 years of age are not eligible to run in a senior session.**

1.2 Pocklington Runners currently have 2 organised adult weekly running events.

- Interval/ speed training Mondays at 6.45pm
- Club night Wednesdays at 6.45pm

1.3 These evenings are essentially adult events for people aged 18+, however there may be occasions where **juniors aged 17+** request /are invited to run with the senior club members.

### 2.0 Guidance for Attendance

2.1 The junior runner can only attend with a parent/guardian or a Leader in Running Fitness (LiRF) who has agreed to supervise the junior in advance. LiRFs are under no obligation to supervise a junior runner and should not feel pressurised to take on this responsibility.

2.2 If the junior runner requires a LiRF, they must confirm attendance in advance of the session.

2.3 The LiRF/Parent/Guardian will agree to always keep the junior runner in view and follow the Club Safeguarding Code of Conduct.

2.4 The junior runner must agree to always stay with the supervising LiRF/ Parent /Guardian during the session.

2.5 There may be occasions when it is suitable for a LiRF/Parent/Guardian to run with two junior members, for example a parent with two children aged 17+. In this case, the formation of 'PODS' where a LiRF/parent/guardian runs with up to two junior members at a senior club night would be acceptable. The POD must always remain together during the run and if one member of the POD must leave the run, the entire POD must leave. Again, a LiRF is under no obligation to supervise in this capacity.

2.6 The supervising LiRF/Parent/ Guardian cannot also be the group/session leader.

2.7 The Run Leader will make the group aware that a minor is running with the group at the beginning of the session.

2.8 Both the leader and the responsible adult will advocate the need for appropriate conversations and behaviours in the presence of a junior runner during the session.

2.9 There will also be a requirement for the LiRF responsible, to ensure that the junior runner is dropped off and collected safely.

2.10 There will be an expectation that the parent will agree to these conditions of attendance and to the Codes of Conduct: Parents/Carers, and Codes of Conduct: Children and Young People.

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- 2.11 Junior members must not have their photograph posted in the club social media pages without consent from the junior and parent.
- 2.12 Junior members who attend adult club nights will remain a junior member of the club and will only be eligible to register as an adult member on reaching 18 years old.
- 2.13 Adult club social nights will remain 18+ events only.

Amendments

April 2024

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## **Appendix 1: Risk/Benefit Analysis**

### **Benefits to young runners**

- Training progression
- Opportunities to continue in the sport.
- Feel part of a wider club

### **Risks to young runners**

- Over training
- One to one contact with senior members (e.g. during long stretched out runs, through social media, before / after training, social events, changing rooms)
- Risks during training routes from outside the club (e.g. issues with members of the public, environmental risks such as road crossings, running on roads etc)
- Hearing inappropriate conversations / language
- Drop off and collection not supervised

### **Benefits to Senior members**

- Retention of members
- Fielding teams for events
- Potential future volunteers

### **Risks to the senior members**

- One to one contact
- Feeling they may have to restrict their behaviour.
- Potential limiting of training due to maximum training for young people in session