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## **MIDLAND SKI CLUB SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN POLICY**

For any type of snowsports activity involving children there should be enough adults present to supervise participants as well as manage any incidents that might arise. There must always be a minimum of 2 responsible adults present. Supervision ratio is not the same as coaching ratio. For mixed gender groups there should always be at least 1 male and 1 female present. At an artificial slope, the responsible adults are likely to be coaches and the slope staff. Participants should be encouraged to make the most of the opportunities they are given, for example, to improve skills, make friends, meet others from other nations or learn about the region they are visiting.

### **For all activities:**

- See Snowsafe for recommended supervision levels. For example, 1:8 staff:children for 9-12 year olds, and 1:10 for 13-18 year olds. Parents should not be counted unless they have volunteered as supervisor.
- A risk assessment should be carried out to include slope conditions; child's age, health, experience; type of activity
- Children should be wearing clothing and protection appropriate to the activity and conditions including helmets
- While competition can be enjoyable and motivating, safety comes first and coaches will look out for over exertion or risk taking.
- Supervisors should be aware of, and follow, the club missing child policy.
- A register will be taken.

### **IN ADDITION, on a residential trip:**

- There should be at least 2 responsible adults, following the above ratio guidelines.
- At least one should be First Aid trained.
- Ensure all participants are reminded of Snowsafe and their relevant Codes of Conduct prior to the trip
- Participants will be required to ensure the Club has up to date emergency contact details and health information plus any other detail pertinent to the trip
- Ensure participants are clear on what behavior is expected of them and fully understand meeting times, bed times, etc.
- Participants should understand what disciplinary measures may be taken.

- Boys and girls will be in separate sleeping quarters and adults will not share with children
- Responsible adults will not go into a child's bedroom without another responsible adult present.
- At least one of the responsible adults will be with the children all day and the children must know how to contact them in case of emergency.
- Under 18s will not be allowed to consume alcohol. Responsible adults should not consume alcohol in case of emergency.
- The lead responsible adult should carry insurance documents and emergency funds.
- The Missing Child policy should be reviewed and participants informed of, for example, any local procedures or phone numbers that should be used. It may be useful to gather photos of the participants.

IN ADDITION, on an outdoor Alpine trip:

- Coaches can refuse to take on the mountain anyone who does not understand the risks and behave accordingly
- In particular, participants (especially small children) should be prepared for the effects of cold and sun (suncream, goggles, warm clothing, gloves, etc)
- Coaches will continuously assess the weather and snow conditions and plan the activity accordingly.
- Children will be kept together in groups of manageable size.
- Coaches will be alert to signs of cold and tiredness.
- Coaches will be aware of the effects of cold, sun, pre-existing health conditions and altitude and manage the risk accordingly. See Snowsafe 'Children at High Altitude – Managing the Risks' for more information.