



SACU Newsletter

July - September 2025

Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport (CWPS)

Putting Children First: Safeguarding Health Checks Underway

The SACU is continuing its series of Safeguarding Health Checks in partnership with Children First, as part of our commitment to the Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport (CWPS) framework. Chief Operating Officer, Gillian Jewitt, attended the first session held on 23 July, which focused on how young people are listened to and respected within our sport. It identified areas for improvement, including limited feedback from young riders, the absence of a Youth Council, and safeguarding materials that were not always age-appropriate. In response, a youth-friendly safeguarding section on our website was developed, we created and launched an anonymous Youth Survey, and encouraged clubs to share this widely using a dedicated QR code.

CWPS Youth Page - [Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport | Scottish Auto Cycle Union](#)

The second session took place on 11 September and reviewed compliance with standards around promoting children's rights and protecting them from abuse. Key areas discussed included Codes of Conduct, how the Responding to Concerns procedure is communicated, the visibility of CWPO contact details, and the secure handling of safeguarding concerns. We're pleased to report that no issues were identified during this review, and all relevant policies are in place. The Youth Survey remains open, and we encourage clubs to continue promoting it to ensure we hear directly from young riders. Insights gathered will help shape future initiatives and support the continued development of safeguarding practices across all SACU activities.

Youth Survey -

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ChildrensVoiceInMotorcycleSport>

Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport (CWPS)

Putting Children First: Responding to Concerns



At the SACU, safeguarding is a shared responsibility, whether you are a club official, volunteer, coach, parent, or rider. If you are ever concerned about the wellbeing of a child or young person in a sport setting, or if a child confides in you, it is vital to respond calmly and appropriately. Avoid questioning or investigating, reassure the young person they've done the right thing by speaking up, and record what was said in their own words. All concerns – whether related to abuse, neglect, poor practice, or general wellbeing – should be reported as soon as possible to your club's Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer (CWPO) or directly to the SACU, using the official [SACU Child Wellbeing and Protection Referral Form](#). This ensures the concern is properly documented and directed to the appropriate people for action. Full guidance on how to respond to a concern, including recognising signs of harm and knowing when to escalate, is available on the SACU website.

If a child is in immediate danger, always call 999. Safeguarding isn't about having all the answers, it's about being prepared, vigilant, and ready to act in the best interests of young people. Thank you for helping to make our sport a safe and positive environment for everyone involved.

Full details on how to respond can be found here – [SACU-Child-Wellbeing-and-Protection-Procedures-Website.pdf](#)

If you would like more information about Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport, or to learn more about the SACU's ongoing work and commitment in this area, please contact: coo@sacu.co.uk.

UK Anti Doping

The SACU has received clarification from UK Anti-Doping (UKAD), confirming that we remain exempt from certain UKAD requirements until at least 1 January 2027. This exemption is due to our affiliation with the Auto Cycle Union which isn't bound by the UK National Anti-Doping Policy.

No action is currently required from clubs, but the SACU will continue to monitor the situation and notify UKAD of any changes.

A full review is scheduled for 2027, and we will keep clubs informed of any developments in the meantime.



Partnership in Action: Tackling Antisocial Riding and Growing the Sport

Earlier this year, the SACU was approached by Sergeant Craig Marshall of Renfrewshire Police in response to growing concerns around antisocial motorcycle use in the area. Unsupervised and unsafe riding in public spaces not only poses a risk to public safety but also damages the reputation of our sport. Rather than viewing this solely as a problem, we saw it as an opportunity to create a positive solution.

In collaboration with Police Scotland, Renfrewshire Council, local councillors, and other community stakeholders, the SACU is working to explore the development of designated riding spaces. The aim is to provide young people with safe, legal, and structured environments where they can develop their skills and engage with the sport in a responsible way. Two potential sites have already been identified in the west of Scotland, and discussions are underway to assess their suitability.

As part of this initiative, Chief Operating Officer, Gillian Jewitt, attended a site visit on 11 September to the Cardenden Motocross Track in Fife, home of Kingdom Off Road Motorcycle Club (KORMC). This visit brought together representatives from Police Scotland (Renfrewshire), Renfrewshire Council, OneRen, and Councillor Janis McDonald to see first-hand how a well-run off-road facility can make a meaningful difference in local communities.

Partnership in Action: Tackling Antisocial Riding and Growing the Sport

The Kingdom Off Road model demonstrates how structured riding environments can not only promote road safety and responsible behaviour but also support youth engagement and strengthen local motorsport participation. The visit was an inspiring example of what can be achieved through partnership working between clubs, local authorities, and the wider community.

Our sincere thanks go to Kingdom Off Road for hosting the visit and sharing their experience. This collaboration marks a significant step forward, and momentum is continuing to build. We look forward to keeping clubs and members updated as the project progresses.

If you would like to learn more about the SACU's community partnerships and collaborative projects, please contact:

coo@sacu.co.uk.



Coaching

BUILDING CAPACITY: TRAIN THE TRAINER SUCCESS

The SACU has successfully delivered its Train the Trainer programme – a key step in strengthening our capacity to deliver high-quality coaching and education across Scotland. This initiative is designed to equip individuals with the skills, techniques, and confidence needed to deliver training sessions effectively.

Trainers who complete the programme will be qualified to deliver our SQA Level 1 and Level 2 Coaching in Motorsport qualifications, as well as the Train the Trainer course itself. By building a network of qualified trainers across the country, we aim to make these nationally recognised qualifications more accessible to members, clubs, and volunteers wherever they are based.

COACHING AND FIRST AID: RECENT COURSES AND UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

This summer, SACU successfully delivered a Level 2 Coaching course focused on Supermoto, alongside an Emergency First Aid at Work course. Both programmes have been well received and are vital in supporting the development and safety of our members.

We are now preparing to launch a new cohort of Level 2 Coaches and plan to increase the frequency of these courses over the coming months.

If you are interested in advancing your coaching qualifications or enhancing your first aid skills, please get in touch with:

adam.paterson@sacu.co.uk

Supporting Events: Officials Training

The SACU has begun delivering an increased number of training sessions for event officials, aimed at both new candidates and those looking to renew their accreditation. These sessions are designed to reinforce the key responsibilities of, for example, Clerks of the Course, Marshals, and Stewards, while also providing practical scenario-based learning and a short knowledge check.

As part of the process, participants qualifying in some roles are also required to complete shadowing sessions at events to gain real-world experience before final sign-off. This blended approach ensures officials are well-prepared to support safe, fair, and well-run events across all disciplines.

If you are interested in becoming a SACU official, or need to update your current accreditation, please contact:

adam.paterson@sacu.co.uk



Schools STEM Project: Engaging Young Minds

Over the summer, we have maintained contact with schools regarding our STEM programme, generating interest from both primary and secondary schools, with pupils aged 10 to 16. We have a particular focus on working with schools in SIMD areas 1 and 2 across Scotland. In the coming weeks, we will be visiting schools again, expanding into new local authorities to reach more young people in these communities.

If you know of any schools that may be interested in hosting our STEM presentations, or if you would like to learn more about the programme, please contact:

adam.paterson@sacu.co.uk

