



WhatsApp Policy

Peacehaven Run Club's main official source of formal sharing of information is via its club WhatsApp community and its social pages (Facebook and Instagram).

In using WhatsApp the following concerns need to be taken into account:

- General WhatsApp groups can add participants without their prior consent
- Participants telephone numbers are visible on the group as is their profile picture. This is a GDPR and potentially a safeguarding concern
- Unsuitable material may be posted to a WhatsApp group and can be difficult to remove
- Photographs and videos shared on the group remain in the camera roll on all participants phones
- Administrators do not have the ability to audit the group's content
- Without effective controls and if abused by users there may be risks of cyber bullying, grooming young people, and exposure to inappropriate content.

To address these concerns Peacehaven Run Club has agreed the following standards which should be followed by any Peacehaven Run Club's member establishing WhatsApp groups in relation to club activities or business:

- Each WhatsApp group should have an Administrator who will name the group and control who is invited to join and, where necessary, is responsible for removing people.
- The Admin is responsible for the members' content and therefore should outline what the group will be used for from the outset, including ensuring that members have a mechanism to report inappropriate content
- Consent should be sought to participate through a formal request to join and an option to decline. Participants should never be automatically added.
- Inactive participants may be removed from WhatsApp groups but should first be given prior notice, with a timescale and have the opportunity to state that they wish to continue.



- All participants must abide by the UK Athletics Codes of Conduct, which have been adopted as club policy by Peacehaven Run Club. These include:
 - acting with dignity and displaying good manners towards others
 - not undermining, putting down or belittling others
 - avoiding swearing and abusive language
 - challenging inappropriate behaviour and language by others and reporting any suspected misconduct.