Safeguarding Regulations

Policy Owner:	Lead Safeguarding Officer
Approved by:	British Orienteering Board
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Review date:	Annual check; full review every three years and sooner after material changes.

1. Aims

1.1 British Orienteering is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of Children and Adults within orienteering. British Orienteering expects all Participants to share this commitment and maintain appropriate standards and behaviour in their dealings with Children and Adults.

1.2 These Regulations (the Regulations), incorporating the NSP Rules (as defined below), establish a framework through which British Orienteering may consider and investigate matters relating to harm, or possible harm, to Children and Adults, and take regulatory safeguarding action in relation to such matters.

1.3 The core aim of these Regulations is to safeguard and promote the welfare of Children and Adults. The procedures in these Regulations are intended to be fair, straightforward and tailored to the needs of orienteering.

1.4 These Regulations are to be interpreted and applied in a manner consistent with their safeguarding aims, the express procedural protections in these Regulations, applicable law, and the principles of natural justice and fairness. The British Orienteering Safeguarding Policies and related documents published from time to time may be referred to as interpretative aids, but do not override an express provision of these Regulations or the NSP Rules where those Rules apply.

1.5 For the avoidance of doubt, British Orienteering may take safeguarding action under these Regulations in relation to risk of harm to any Adult. The term Adult at Risk identifies when additional statutory adult safeguarding considerations may apply; it is not a threshold that must be met before British Orienteering may act under these Regulations.

2. Jurisdiction

2.1 These Regulations apply to all Participants.

2.2 Where a safeguarding matter involves a person, activity or incident falling within the jurisdiction of an Affiliated Association or home-nation governing body, British Orienteering will determine the appropriate case-management and regulatory route having regard to these Regulations, applicable law, the location of the activity or incident, the Person's membership or other relevant connection, and any applicable agreement or jurisdictional arrangement between British Orienteering and that body.

2.3 Nothing in these Regulations is intended, without express agreement, to displace an applicable home-nation safeguarding responsibility or jurisdictional arrangement. British Orienteering and the relevant body should cooperate to identify the appropriate lead organisation and avoid duplication or gaps in safeguarding action. Urgent protective or statutory action must not be delayed while jurisdiction is resolved.

2.4 In applying these Regulations, British Orienteering and any relevant Affiliated Association or home-nation governing body must have regard to the applicable statutory safeguarding framework, legislation, guidance and procedures in the home nation concerned, as amended or replaced from time to time. This paragraph is not exhaustive and does not displace any legal duty or statutory referral route.

3. Definitions

Term	Meaning
Adult	any person aged 18 or over
Adult at Risk	an Adult who meets, or may meet, the applicable statutory adult-safeguarding criteria in the relevant home nation. The term identifies when additional statutory considerations may apply; it does not limit the safeguarding of other Adults
Affiliated Association	a national, regional or other association affiliated to or formally recognised by British Orienteering
Affiliated Club	a club affiliated to or formally recognised by British Orienteering
Appeal Panel	an independent person or panel appointed or engaged under Regulation 11 to determine an appeal or review, including an NSP Appeal Tribunal where the NSP Rules apply
Board	the board of directors of British Orienteering
British Orienteering	British Orienteering Federation Limited, registered in England and Wales under company number 01606472
Case Management Group or CMG	the safeguarding case-management, scrutiny and risk-management group established under its Terms of Reference
Child	a person under 18
Concern	information indicating possible harm to a Child or Adult; possible risk of harm; safeguarding-related misconduct, unsafe practice or abuse of power; or breach of a safeguarding requirement
Effective Date	the date approved by the Board and stated in the published version of these Regulations
Interim Measure	a temporary restriction, suspension, direction or condition imposed to manage safeguarding risk, including a Provisional Suspension under Regulation 9
Lead Safeguarding Officer	the person appointed to lead British Orienteering's safeguarding function, or an authorised nominee
Material Change	a change which might reasonably have affected an earlier safeguarding decision or review
National Safeguarding Panel or NSP	the National Safeguarding Panel operated by Sport Resolutions (UK) (a trading name of The Sports Dispute Resolution Panel Ltd - Company No. 3351039)
NSP Rules	the procedural rules of the NSP, as amended from time to time
Panel	an independent decision-maker or safeguarding panel appointed, engaged or used under Regulation 11, including an NSP Tribunal where applicable
Participant	a Person bound by these Regulations under Regulation 2
Person	any natural or legal person (as the context requires) who participates in orienteering activity under the jurisdiction of British Orienteering, or who has otherwise agreed to be bound by these Regulations
Prohibited Conduct	conduct described in Regulation 5
Provisional Suspension	a temporary bar from all or specified orienteering activity imposed under Regulation 9

	pending final determination or other resolution of the matter
Regulated Activity Person	a Person engaged in "Regulated Activity" as defined by applicable legislation in the relevant home nation in the context of orienteering activities
Regulated Role Person	a Person undertaking a "regulated role" within the meaning of applicable Scottish legislation in the context of orienteering activities
Safeguarding Framework	the safeguarding policies, mandatory procedures, codes, standards and other requirements published or designated by British Orienteering from time to time under or consistently with these Regulations
Safeguarding Team	the Lead Safeguarding Officer and authorised personnel or advisers undertaking safeguarding work for British Orienteering
Statutory Agency	the police, children's or adult social care, a designated officer or equivalent, health body, safeguarding partnership or another body exercising statutory safeguarding functions
Subject	the person whose conduct, suitability or risk is being considered
Vetting Body	the Disclosure and Barring Service, Disclosure Scotland, AccessNI or another competent criminal-record, scheme-membership or barring authority
Welfare Officer	a Club or Association Welfare Officer appointed as a safeguarding contact

4. Safeguarding Checks, Vetting and Safer Recruitment

4.1 General requirements

4.1.1 Participants, Affiliated Clubs, Affiliated Associations and others responsible for appointing or engaging people must comply with British Orienteering's safeguarding check, vetting and safer recruitment requirements applicable to the role and home nation.

4.1.2 Detailed requirements may be set out in policies, procedures, standards or other requirements published by British Orienteering from time to time. These may recognise equivalent or additional home-nation requirements.

4.2 Required safeguarding checks

4.2.1 Before a Person undertakes activity for which a criminal-record, barred-list, scheme-membership or equivalent safeguarding check is required, the Person and the organisation engaging them must comply with the legal requirements applicable to the role and home nation.

4.2.2 The relevant disclosure systems are DBS in England and Wales, AccessNI in Northern Ireland, and the PVG Scheme in Scotland.

4.2.3 The appropriate type and level of check, and any barred-list or scheme-membership requirement, must be determined by the duties actually undertaken and applicable law.

4.2.4 British Orienteering must not require a Standard, Enhanced, barred-list or equivalent higher-level check where the role is not legally eligible for it.

4.3 Scotland - regulated roles

4.3.1 A Person undertaking a regulated role in Scotland, and the organisation engaging that Person, must comply with the statutory PVG Scheme membership and disclosure requirements applicable to that regulated role before undertaking duties for which membership is required.

4.4 Assessment of disclosed information

4.4.1 Where information is disclosed or otherwise identified through a safeguarding, criminal-record or vetting check, British Orienteering may assess its relevance to the Person's suitability to undertake or continue in a role or activity.

4.4.2 British Orienteering may seek relevant information, explanation or clarification and may undertake or commission a proportionate safeguarding suitability and risk assessment.

4.4.3 A disclosure or other information identified through a safeguarding check does not of itself result in exclusion or other adverse action.

4.5 Basic criminal-record checks

4.5.1 Where lawful, necessary and proportionate for safeguarding or suitability purposes, British Orienteering may request a Person to obtain and provide a Basic DBS check, Basic Disclosure or equivalent basic criminal-record check available in the relevant home nation.

4.5.2 This may include circumstances where safeguarding concerns have arisen and a higher-level check is not available or appropriate.

4.5.3 British Orienteering may make a Basic DBS application through an authorised route where permitted by law and with the Person's consent.

4.6 Cooperation with safeguarding checks

4.6.1 A Participant must comply with any lawful, reasonable and proportionate request necessary to complete a safeguarding check, suitability assessment or associated risk assessment.

4.6.2 This may include providing relevant information or explanation within a reasonable time specified by British Orienteering, having regard to the nature and urgency of the matter.

4.7 Training and self-declarations

4.7.1 British Orienteering may require safeguarding training, induction, continuing learning and/or a safeguarding self-declaration where lawful, reasonable and proportionate to the role, activity or safeguarding risk.

4.7.2 British Orienteering may set minimum safeguarding training standards and recognise or require equivalent or additional home-nation training.

4.7.3 Detailed requirements may be set out in policies, procedures, role standards or other published requirements.

4.8 Suitability and risk-management decisions

4.8.1 Where a safeguarding check, self-declaration, suitability assessment or risk assessment identifies a safeguarding risk, British Orienteering may take proportionate measures necessary to enable safe participation or deployment.

4.8.2 Measures may include additional training, supervision or mentoring, monitoring, limitations on a role, conditions on participation, enhanced review arrangements, or deciding that a Person should not be appointed to, or continue in, a particular role.

4.8.3 A materially adverse suitability decision must be reasoned and recorded. The Person should normally have an appropriate opportunity to provide relevant information before the decision is finalised, unless urgent protective action is necessary.

4.8.4 A suitability or deployment decision is a prospective safeguarding decision. It does not, without more, amount to a finding of misconduct.

4.8.5 Where British Orienteering seeks a disciplinary sanction or final risk-management measure based on materially disputed facts, Regulations 10 to 12 apply. Detailed processes for safeguarding checks, self-declarations, disclosure assessment, safer recruitment, suitability decisions and review may be set out in policies and procedures published from time to time.

5. Conduct

5.1 Participant responsibilities

5.1 A Participant must:

- report a Concern without delay and as soon as reasonably practicable; urgent protective or statutory action must be taken immediately;
- cooperate with lawful, reasonable and proportionate safeguarding enquiries, directions, information requests and measures;
- preserve relevant information and maintain appropriate confidentiality; and
- comply with the Safeguarding Framework applicable to their role or activity.

5.2 Prohibited Conduct

5.2 A Participant must not:

- harm, abuse, neglect, exploit, groom or discriminate against a Child or Adult, or create an unreasonable safeguarding risk;
- misuse authority, influence, trust, dependency or access, or breach appropriate professional or personal boundaries;
- retaliate against, intimidate, disadvantage or improperly influence a person for reporting or participating in a safeguarding process;
- knowingly obstruct safeguarding action, conceal material safeguarding information or provide materially false or misleading information;
- knowingly fail to comply with safeguarding check, vetting or safer recruitment requirements where that failure creates or leaves unmanaged a safeguarding risk; or
- breach an Interim Measure, final outcome or other binding safeguarding requirement.

5.3 Scope of Prohibited Conduct

5.3 Prohibited Conduct may be established whether or not an affected Adult meets the statutory definition of an Adult at Risk, whether or not the conduct is criminal, and whether or not the conduct occurred within orienteering. British Orienteering may take account of lower-level concerns, poor practice, boundary breaches or other conduct which, individually or cumulatively, may indicate a pattern, escalation, grooming behaviour, misuse of power or another safeguarding risk. A lower-level concern does not of itself establish misconduct or safeguarding risk. Its relevance must be assessed fairly and proportionately in context.

6. Organisational Safeguarding Responsibilities

6.1 Affiliated Clubs and Associations

7.1.1 Every Affiliated Club must appoint a suitable Welfare Officer and maintain an alternative reporting route for absence, vacancy or conflict. Every Affiliated Association must maintain an appropriate safeguarding contact or arrangement consistent with British Orienteering requirements and any applicable home-nation jurisdictional arrangement.

7.1.2 Affiliated Clubs and Associations must:

- promote accessible safeguarding reporting;
- pass Concerns to British Orienteering or the appropriate lead safeguarding body without delay;
- avoid investigating possible abuse;
- cooperate with lawful safeguarding action; and
- take reasonable steps to implement the Safeguarding Framework.

6.2 Welfare Officers

7.2.1 A Welfare Officer is a safeguarding and reporting contact. They are not a gatekeeper, investigator or adjudicator.

7.2.2 A Welfare Officer must be able to report directly to British Orienteering and, where appropriate, a Statutory Agency.

7.2.3 Welfare Officers must complete the role requirements published by British Orienteering within any reasonable implementation period specified.

6.3 Recruitment, training and safeguarding arrangements

7.3.1 Recruitment, safeguarding checks, training, supervision, record-keeping, assurance and activity safeguards must be proportionate to role and risk and comply with mandatory procedures or standards in force at the relevant time.

7.3.2 British Orienteering will ordinarily support good-faith improvement before taking regulatory action for administrative non-compliance, unless the failure is serious or repeated, is obstructive, amounts to deliberate non-compliance, or creates or leaves unmanaged a safeguarding risk.

6.4 Events and activities involving Children

7.4.1 A Participant responsible for organising or authorising an event or activity at which Children participate must comply with applicable British Orienteering event safeguarding requirements.

7.4.2 These must include:

- a named safeguarding contact who is available for the event and has safeguarding training or competence appropriate to the role and level of risk;
- organisers knowing the safeguarding reporting and escalation route and having any training required for their role; and
- event information explaining clearly and accessibly how a safeguarding Concern can be reported.

7.4.3 The named safeguarding contact may be the organiser or another suitable Person. A separate dedicated safeguarding post is not required where the nature and scale of the event do not justify one.

7. British Orienteering's Powers of Investigation

7.1 Upon receipt of information giving British Orienteering reasonable grounds to suspect that a Participant has engaged, attempted or threatened to engage in Prohibited Conduct under Regulation 5, British Orienteering may investigate the matter.

7.2 In relation to an investigation commenced under these Regulations, British Orienteering may investigate the matter itself and/or appoint others, including an independent safeguarding expert, to assist with or conduct the investigation on its behalf.

7.3 In relation to an investigation, and subject to Regulation 4 where criminal-record or vetting information is sought, British Orienteering or its appointee may, so far as lawful, reasonable, relevant and proportionate: 7.3.1 require a Participant (and request any other person) to attend an interview or provide information; 7.3.2 require

production of relevant documents, information or other material in that Participant's possession or control; 7.3.3 require an appropriate risk assessment by a suitably qualified person appointed by British Orienteering; and/or 7.3.4 require such other reasonable cooperation as is necessary for the investigation. Nothing in this paragraph requires disclosure of legally privileged material or permits British Orienteering to act contrary to applicable law or a direction of a police, statutory or regulatory authority.

7.4 The Lead Safeguarding Officer may investigate a matter and may make case-management, referral, closure and interim risk-management decisions within these Regulations. The Lead Safeguarding Officer may also propose an agreed outcome under Regulation 13. However, a Person who has materially carried out the investigation must not determine materially disputed facts for the purpose of imposing a final disciplinary order or final risk-management measure under Regulation 12.

8. Supporting Provisions

8.1 A report that is not substantiated is not, for that reason alone, malicious, false or made in bad faith. Deliberately malicious or materially false reporting, or other bad-faith conduct in connection with a safeguarding process, may itself be addressed under these Regulations or another applicable British Orienteering procedure where supported by evidence.

8.2 A breach of Regulation 5 may result in safeguarding, disciplinary, membership or other regulatory action. A failure to comply with Regulation 6 may result in proportionate organisational or regulatory action, having regard to the nature, seriousness, persistence and safeguarding consequences of the failure. A failure to comply with another lawful safeguarding requirement imposed under these Regulations may be addressed under the route most appropriate to the circumstances.

9. Provisional Suspensions

9.1 At any point where British Orienteering has reasonable grounds to suspect that a Person has engaged, attempted or threatened to engage in Prohibited Conduct under Regulation 5, British Orienteering may, where it considers a Provisional Suspension necessary and proportionate to manage safeguarding risk: 9.1.1 impose a Provisional Suspension directly on that Person; or 9.1.2 make an application to the NSP, where the NSP has jurisdiction, for the imposition of a Provisional Suspension in accordance with the NSP Rules.

9.2 A Provisional Suspension may bar a Person from all or any specific orienteering activities under the auspices of British Orienteering, on such terms and conditions as may be appropriate in the circumstances.

9.3 British Orienteering will impose or seek the imposition of a Provisional Suspension only where it is reasonable and proportionate, with reference to paragraph 9.4. Except where urgent protective action is required, the course of action must first be approved by the British Orienteering Case Management Group. Where urgent action is required, the Lead Safeguarding Officer may impose a Provisional Suspension without waiting for a Case Management Group meeting, provided the matter is referred to the Case Management Group for review as soon as reasonably practicable and normally within five working days.

9.4 When considering whether or not to impose or apply for the imposition of a Provisional Suspension under paragraph 9.1, British Orienteering will give consideration to: 9.4.1 the aims of these Regulations; 9.4.2 the prospect of any existing or contemplated charge(s) being upheld; 9.4.3 the seriousness of the individual case; 9.4.4 whether a Provisional Suspension is necessary or desirable to allow any investigation by British Orienteering, the police or another public authority to proceed unimpeded; and 9.4.5 any other circumstances relevant to the individual case, including whether a less restrictive measure would adequately manage the risk.

9.5 Once a Provisional Suspension has been imposed, British Orienteering shall ensure that the Person is promptly notified of: 8.5.1 the reasons why it has been imposed; 8.5.2 its scope; 8.5.3 any other terms and conditions imposed; 8.5.4 the date or arrangements for review; and 8.5.5 the Person's right to challenge, appeal or seek review under the NSP Rules where the NSP has jurisdiction, or under any other applicable independent review route.

9.6 British Orienteering may vary, or apply to vary, the scope, terms, and/or conditions of a Provisional Suspension in the same manner as the Provisional Suspension was originally imposed under paragraph 9.1.

9.7 A Person subject to a Provisional Suspension may seek review or challenge in accordance with the NSP Rules where the NSP has jurisdiction. If the NSP cannot accept jurisdiction, British Orienteering must make available a prompt review by a suitably independent person or tribunal who was not materially involved in imposing the suspension.

9.8 Unless otherwise specified, a Provisional Suspension comes into force as soon as it is imposed and, unless lifted or varied, remains in force until the matter is finally determined. British Orienteering must keep any Provisional Suspension under review and conduct a recorded review at least every six months while it remains in force. The Person may request an earlier review where there has been a Material Change in circumstances. A review should consider whether the measure remains necessary and proportionate and whether a less restrictive measure would adequately manage the risk.

9.9 British Orienteering may publish and/or share information relating to Provisional Suspensions on a “need to know” basis, in such form and manner, and to such extent, as it deems necessary for the purposes of safeguarding, enforcement and/or compliance.

10. Notice of Charge

10.1 If, at the conclusion of an investigation commenced under these Regulations, British Orienteering concludes that the Person under investigation has a case to answer, British Orienteering will send written notice to that Person: 9.1.1 confirming the charge; 9.1.2 setting out the material facts and evidence relied upon sufficiently clearly to enable a response; and 9.1.3 inviting a written response within 14 days, or such longer period as British Orienteering reasonably allows having regard to fairness, accessibility, reasonable adjustments and the circumstances of the case.

10.2 In the event that a written notice of charge is sent to a Person who was under the age of 18 years when the relevant conduct is alleged to have occurred, British Orienteering may, if it considers it appropriate, address or copy the notice to the Person’s parent(s) or carer(s).

11. Referrals of Safeguarding Cases and Appeals

11.1 Following receipt of the Person's response to a written notice of charge, or if no response is received within the permitted period, British Orienteering will decide the appropriate route. Where British Orienteering seeks a final disciplinary order or final risk-management measure under Regulation 12 and material facts are disputed, the matter must be determined independently and must not be determined by the Lead Safeguarding Officer or the Case Management Group. British Orienteering will ordinarily refer such a matter to the NSP where the NSP has jurisdiction, the referral is consistent with any applicable home-nation jurisdictional agreement or arrangement, and the NSP accepts the referral. If the NSP cannot determine the matter, or an applicable home-nation arrangement requires or makes another route more appropriate, British Orienteering must use another applicable disciplinary or regulatory procedure that provides a suitably independent determination and an independent appeal, or agree an appropriate independent arbitration route with the Person.

11.2 If British Orienteering refers a Person to the NSP under these Regulations it shall prepare and send a written notice of referral in the name of British Orienteering to the Person, containing: 10.2.1 the facts alleged in support of the referral; 10.2.2 an outline of the process to be followed in relation to the referral; and 10.2.3 contact details for the NSP.

11.3 Subject to any applicable home-nation jurisdictional agreement or arrangement, and where within its jurisdiction and accepted by the NSP, the following matters arising under these Regulations may be determined by the NSP in accordance with the NSP Rules, as amended from time to time and incorporated by reference: 11.3.1 a substantive referral by British Orienteering; 11.3.2 an application or challenge concerning a Provisional Suspension pursuant to Regulation 9; and 11.3.3 any other safeguarding matter that British Orienteering reasonably refers to the NSP and the NSP accepts for determination.

11.4 A final determination by an NSP Tribunal may be appealed by a party who has a right of appeal under the NSP Rules, within the time limit and in the manner provided by those Rules. When communicating a final determination, British Orienteering will ensure that the Person is informed of any applicable right of appeal and how it may be exercised. Where a final determination is made through another procedure under paragraph 11.1, that procedure must provide an independent appeal or review route and the Person must be told how and when to use it.

12. Disciplinary Orders and Risk Management Measures

12.1 An NSP Tribunal, or another suitably independent decision-maker determining a matter under Regulation 11.1, may impose such disciplinary orders and/or risk-management measures as are authorised by the applicable procedure and are fair and proportionate. British Orienteering envisages that the following range of measures may be appropriate where, on the balance of probabilities, the decision-maker concludes that a Person has engaged in Prohibited Conduct under Regulation 5 or poses a safeguarding risk requiring management: 12.1.1 a reprimand/warning; 12.1.2 an order to undertake specified training; 12.1.3 an order requiring a Person to be monitored in specific matters; 12.1.4 suspension for a specific period of time from involvement in orienteering activities under the jurisdiction of British Orienteering on such terms and conditions as the decision-maker considers appropriate; and 12.1.5 permanent exclusion from involvement in orienteering activities under the jurisdiction of British Orienteering on such terms and conditions as the decision-maker considers appropriate.

12.2 British Orienteering may publish and/or share details of final disciplinary orders and risk-management measures only where, and to the extent, necessary, proportionate and lawful for safeguarding, enforcement, compliance or another legitimate regulatory purpose, taking account of the rights and welfare of affected Children and Adults and third parties. British Orienteering may take administrative steps necessary to give effect to a final order or measure without further ratification by another body.

12.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the Case Management Group is not a final adjudicatory hearing body and must not determine materially disputed facts. It may exercise the case-management, safeguarding, suitability and risk-management functions allocated to it by these Regulations and its Terms of Reference, including review of Provisional Suspensions, safeguarding suitability decisions and proposed agreed outcomes. Where material facts are disputed and British Orienteering seeks a significant final disciplinary order or final risk-management measure, determination must be made in accordance with Regulation 11. The Case Management Group must not impose permanent exclusion.

13. Conclusion of Cases Without Referral

13.1 If, at any stage before a referral under Regulation 11, British Orienteering concludes that (i) there is insufficient evidence to support a charge, (ii) a safeguarding referral for final determination would not further the aims of these Regulations, or (iii) another bona fide and fair route is more appropriate, British Orienteering may close the matter, provide non-disciplinary guidance, manage the matter under another applicable procedure, or refer it to another competent body. The decision and reasons must be recorded and any person directly affected should be given appropriate outcome information so far as lawful, safe and fair.

13.2 Where material facts are admitted or not materially disputed, British Orienteering may propose an agreed safeguarding outcome short of permanent exclusion, including a warning, training, supervision, monitoring, conditions on participation or a time-limited restriction or suspension. The proposed outcome must be proportionate, recorded in writing, reviewed by the Case Management Group, and freely accepted in writing by the Person. If it is not accepted, no adverse inference may be drawn and, if British Orienteering seeks a final measure, Regulation 11 applies. Nothing in this paragraph prevents British Orienteering from making a prospective safeguarding suitability or deployment decision under Regulation 4.8 where the requirements of that Regulation are met.

14. Miscellaneous

14.1 In the event that a procedural matter arises that is not expressly provided for in these Regulations, British Orienteering, the NSP President or an appointed NSP Tribunal (as applicable) may give such procedural direction as is reasonably necessary to deal with it, provided that the direction is consistent with these Regulations, applicable law, safeguarding welfare, and the principles of natural justice and fairness. This paragraph does not create a power to impose a final sanction that is not otherwise authorised by these Regulations.

14.2 Minor practical or technical points will not serve to invalidate the procedure or any decisions or findings made under these Regulations, so long as the principles of natural justice and fairness are not infringed.

14.3 These Regulations are, save where otherwise stated, intended to operate on a standalone basis. However, where a matter also falls under other British Orienteering rules or procedures, is subject to investigation by the police or other public authority or sports body, or is subject to another legal, regulatory or disciplinary process, British Orienteering, the NSP President or an appointed NSP Tribunal may temporarily suspend the procedure under these Regulations. British Orienteering reserves the right to bring proceedings under other applicable rules or regulations.

14.4 Save to the extent that disclosure and/or publication is provided for in these Regulations, or is otherwise in accordance with the law, all matters considered under these Regulations will, so far as practicable, be regarded as confidential and used only for the purposes of these Regulations.

14.5 These Regulations are governed by English law.

14.6 British Orienteering will apply these Regulations consistently with any applicable safeguarding or jurisdictional agreement with an Affiliated Association or home-nation governing body. Where such an agreement allocates case responsibility by membership, location of an incident or another agreed factor, that allocation should be followed unless safeguarding welfare, applicable law or an urgent statutory requirement requires otherwise.

14.7 In the case of any conflict between these Regulations and the NSP Rules, the latter shall take precedence in relation to matters that have been referred to the NSP.

14.8 If any part of these Regulations (including the NSP Rules) is ruled to be invalid, unenforceable or illegal for any reason, that part will be deemed deleted, and the rest of these Regulations will remain in full force and effect.

14.9 Neither British Orienteering, nor any person employed by or appointed to assist British Orienteering, will be liable to any party for any act or omission unless it is actuated by malice or bad faith.

14.10 These revised Regulations will come into effect on [effective date]. British Orienteering may amend these Regulations from time to time. Such amendments will come into effect on the date specified by British Orienteering.

14.11 These revised Regulations apply from the effective date to cases already commenced as well as to cases commenced afterwards. Steps validly taken before the effective date remain valid. British Orienteering or an NSP Tribunal may apply a provision of an earlier version of the Regulations where, exceptionally, fairness requires that course in relation to a step, right or expectation arising before the effective date.