



Youth Officer Role Club Guidelines

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Youth Officer Role

1. Introduction

This document is for BMC-affiliated clubs which allow under 18s as members, or allow under 18s to attend meets without a parent/carer or adult in loco parentis. It covers the role and person specification of a Youth Officer (YO).

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| Clubs which allow under 18s as members or to attend meets when not accompanied by either a parent/carer or a specified adult in <i>loco parentis</i> | → The club and/or the officers have additional responsibilities and duties that relate to those under 18 years. → The club must put in place the BMC's Child Protection Policy. → The club must appointment a Youth Officer (YO) and inform the BMC that they have done this. |
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Clubs which allow under 18s as members or to attend meets, only if they are accompanied by a parent/carer or by an adult who has accepted the role of being *in loco parentis*, do not need a Youth Officer within the club. If an adult is acting in loco parentis, make sure that it is clear who has the duty of care at any given moment and whether or not that duty of care is handed from one person to another.

2. What is a Youth Officer?

A YO is the key contact within the club for managing child protection procedures. These are set out in the BMC Child Protection Policy.

The YO is responsible for raising awareness of the issues of Child Protection within the club and working towards implementing the BMC Child Protection Policy within the club.

Contacts are established locally with the key statutory agencies or with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). In turn the BMC will disseminate information passed to the organisation by LSCBs back out to clubs. Those clubs that are nationally based will maintain contacts with the Manchester LSCB via the BMC.

3. Person Specification for a Youth Officer

- Club member.
- Experienced climber, hill walker or mountaineer.
- Ideally with experience of supervising or working with young people.
- Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checked. Full details are set out at the back of the BMC Child Protection Policy.
- Willing to attend training that will enable them to fulfill the requirements of the role.

4. What a Youth Officer needs to do

- Read the BMC Child Protection Policy:
<https://www.thebmc.co.uk/Download.aspx?id=11>
- Consult the BMC officer responsible for youth and child protection.
- Attend a Safeguarding & Child Protection Awareness course and other appropriate training.
- Work towards implementing the BMC Child Protection Policy within the club.
- Inform and advise the club and its members on Child Protection issues.
- If a club is running a specific youth event where there are under 18s not with their own parents or a specified person in loco parentis, ensure that there are suitably vetted people supervising the children and that everyone is clear about their roles and responsibilities.
- Pass Child Protection concerns to the BMC officer responsible for youth.