



“RAISE THE BAR” CHILD & VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY

“Raise the Bar” Olympic Weightlifting Club has officially adopted the following British Weight Lifting policy

This guidance is primarily intended to protect young people over the age of sexual consent but under 18 years of age and vulnerable adults where a relationship of trust with an adult exists.

Young people of 16 or 17 years can legally consent to some types of sexual activity but they may still be relatively immature emotionally.

It is essential that those who may be in a position of responsibility and trust recognise this vulnerability and ensure that it is not exploited. There is no simple definition of a vulnerable adult but again the position of trust and the vulnerability of adults must not be abused. The principles and guidance apply irrespective of sexual orientation. Neither homosexual nor heterosexual relationships are acceptable in a position of trust. The sexual offences bill will contain a proposal that it would be unlawful for any sexual activity between a position of trust and any person under the age of 18 years subject to their authority.

- **A RELATIONSHIP OF TRUST** can be described as one in which one party is in a position of power or influence over another by virtue of their position. A genuine relationship can start between two people within a relationship of trust, but the relationship of trust must end before any sexual relationship develops.
- **ABUSE OF TRUST AND SEXUAL OR OTHER ABUSE.** Any sexual activity, which is not freely consenting, is criminal. The sexual activity covered by abuse of trust may be ostensibly consensual, but rendered unacceptable because of the relative positions of the parties concerned.
- **CODE ON ABUSE OF TRUST.** The code of conduct on sexual activity between individuals in a relationship of trust aims to:
 - Protect a young person or vulnerable adult from an unequal and potentially damaging relationship.
 - Protect the person in a position of trust by preventing him/her from entering into such a relationship deliberately or accidentally by providing clear and guidance on what behaviour is acceptable.