

British Columbia Pipers' Association

CHILD, YOUTH, AND VULNERABLE ADULTS ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM

Policy and Procedure

The BC Criminal Records Review Act (the "Act") ensures that people who work with or may potentially have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults undergo a criminal record check by the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP). The British Columbia Pipers' Association (BCPA) views the safety and well-being of all individuals to be of the utmost importance in the execution of its services and programs. To help protect children and vulnerable adults and to comply with the BC Criminal Records Review Act, the British Columbia Pipers' Association has adopted the following Child, Youth and Vulnerable Adults Abuse Prevention Program. It is important that all BCPA members and volunteers understand and implement these guidelines to help prevent any form of abuse against children or the vulnerable sector. The following includes the Purpose and Definitions for these guidelines as well as the outlines of Protection and Prevention.

Purpose:

These procedures are designed to reduce the risk of child and vulnerable individual abuse in order to:

1. Provide a safe and secure environment for children, youth, adults, members, volunteers, and visitors.
2. Assist the British Columbia Pipers' Association in evaluating a person's suitability to supervise, oversee, and/or exert control over the activities of children, youth, and vulnerable individuals.
3. Satisfy the concerns of parents and BCPA members with a screening process for volunteers and professional members.

Definitions

The following terms are used herein and are defined as follows:

1. Children/Youth/Minor: An individual under 19 years of age.
2. Vulnerable Adult: An individual 19 years or older who receives health services, other than acute care, from a hospital, facility, unit, society, service, holder or registrant referred to in paragraph (d), (h.1), (i) or (i.1) of the definition of "employer" in the Act.
3. Competition Organizer(s): Committees, associations and/or organizations comprised of experienced volunteers that may include parent(s) of pipers and/or drummers and always include at least one professional member of the BCPA who oversees the technical aspects of the event. They facilitate the event from planning through to execution, and in doing so provide competitive opportunities for pipers, drummers and bands.
4. Teacher/Instructor: A Teacher/Instructor educates pipers and drummers in the techniques and craft of piping and/or drumming.
5. Adjudicator: An Adjudicator provides written and verbal assessments of a player's performance and determines a list of prizes/placings for a competition event. Adjudicators are members of the BCPA Adjudicators Panel and certified by the BCPA or members of an Adjudicators Panel of a piping/pipe band association officially recognized and affiliated with the BCPA. The composition of the Adjudicators Panel at competitions, however, varies from event to event. Adjudicators may be retained from countries other than Canada.
6. Registrars: These volunteers issue the competitors' numbers the day of the event, deal with last minute registration issues that may arise the day of the competition, and hand out adjudication sheets and prizes for the competitors. In 100% of the events, this task is completed in an open venue and the participants are accompanied by the parents.
7. Stewards: These volunteers work in conjunction with adjudicators to insure that competitors are ready for their events. They also "run" the competition results from the adjudicators to the registrar's area. These volunteers are almost always in clear view of parents and guardians.

Screening Procedures

The following screening procedures have been developed and are to be used with volunteers who are entrusted with the care and supervision of minors and/or vulnerable adults or a person who directly oversees and/or exerts control or oversight over minors and vulnerable adults.

Piping/Drumming Teachers and/or Pipe Band Instructors

Risk level based on continual and private involvement with pipers and drummers:

HIGH

Requirement: The British Columbia Pipers' Association does not employ or endorse Teachers or Band Instructors. Therefore, BCPA cannot require these individuals to undergo Criminal Record Checks. The BCPA does, however, encourage Pipe Bands to develop their own policies with regards to Vulnerable Sector Screening.

Member of the BCPA Adjudicators Panel - Member of the British Columbia Pipers Association

Risk level based on little or no direct contact with competitors while adjudicating:

LOW

Requirement: No requirement for Criminal Record Check, however, every member of the Adjudicators Panel is accountable to the BCPA.

Competition Organizers and Registrars

Risk level based on registration of pipers and drummers the day of a competition:

LOW

Requirement: No requirement to undergo a Criminal Record Check, however, the Registrar is accountable to the BCPA.

Stewards

Risk level based on involvement with pipers and drummers: **LOW**

Requirement: No requirement to undergo a Criminal Record Check, however, Stewards are accountable to the BCPA.

Establishment of Safe Environments

Because BCPA holds events in which children and possibly vulnerable adults are present, BCPA has determined to meet the requirements of the BC Criminal Records Review Act by creating “safe environments” where volunteers are not having or potentially having unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults.

BCPA has designated the following positions to be responsible for creating these safe environments:

BCPA Competition Secretary: Responsible for creating a safe environment in and around the competition secretary’s area at the event.

BCPA Chief Steward: Responsible for creating a safe environment with stewards and adjudicators at the event.

BCPA President and Vice President: Responsible for creating a safe environment in the general areas at the event.

Administrative Procedures

People in the positions of the BCPA President, Vice President, Chief Steward, and Competition Secretary shall be required to undergo and pass a “BC Criminal Record Check for Volunteers” (BC Ministry of Justice form CRR026) and maintain successful clearance while they hold these positions. Evidence of successful clearance shall be provided to and maintained by the BCPA Secretary.

To ensure that volunteers are able to receive the BC Criminal Record Check for free, BCPA shall register as a Volunteer Organization in the “BC Criminal Records Review Program”(BC Ministry of Justice form CRR016) and apply for enrollment in the online service of the BC Criminal Records Review Program (BC Ministry of Justice form CRR020).

Forms are available at

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/crime-prevention/criminal-record-check/forms/volunteer-forms>