

WBSA Supervision Ratios

Note:

- The terms 'child' or 'children' apply to anyone under the age of 18.
- The term 'parent' applies to anyone with guardianship or caring and parental responsibility for the child.
- The term 'official or Staff' applies to Committee members, tournament directors, coaches, referees and volunteers.
- All players and officials will be responsible for all travelling/associated parties and travelling/associated parties will be held to the same conduct and disciplinary procedures.

Introduction:

WBSA promote adequate supervision ratios as part of our duty of care to safeguard and protect children and young people. They are intended to:

- Minimise any risks to participants.
- Enhance the benefits children and young people draw from the activity.
- Help deliver the activity safely and appropriately.
- Ensure there is enough appropriate adult support should any issues arise.
- Reassure parents.

WBSA will ensure:

- Our staff have been appropriately qualified for their role and the activity.
- Our staff have been subject to a safe recruitment process, including criminal records checks for eligible roles (DBS)
- Participants are protected by our public liabilities insurance ([Click here](#)).
- Our staff will comply with all WBSA code of conduct policies.
- Our staff understand their responsibility to safeguard children/young people and adults.
- Our staff know how to report and record incidents.

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What factors inform appropriate supervision levels?

Whatever the recommended ratio of adults to participants is, a minimum of 2 adults will be present. This ensures at least basic cover in the event of something impacting on the availability of one of the adults during the activity (such as in the event of one participant requiring the attention of an adult during the activity following an accident).

Key factors WBSA assess:

- Ages of children and young people.
- Additional supervision and support needs of some or all participants (for example, due to disability or age).
- Input from children and their parents for risk assessments to ensure the children's needs are met.
- Competence and experience of the staff involved.
- At least one trained first aider.
- Competence and experience of participants for the specific activity.
- What types of equipment children may have access to and how to safely use it.
- Whether there needs to be appropriate ratios of male or female adults.
- If the activity is being delivered using a drop-in model.
- Ensuring adults who do not meet the criteria for vetting and barring checks are supervised at all times.

WBSA recommended supervision ratios:

WBSA adhere to these minimum supervision standards for all competition events, training, bootcamps, presentations. While WBSA risk assessments may well indicate the need for an enhanced level of supervision and staffing for a particular activity, this table shows recommended adult to child ratios. WBSA recommend these adult-to-child ratios as the minimum numbers to help keep children safe. WBSA will have a minimum of 2 supervisors at our junior events.

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Age Categories	Number of Children	Number of Staff
U14's/u16's/u18's/u21's	0-10	2
U14's/u16's/u18's/u21's	10-20	2
U14's/u16's/u18's/u21's	20-30	3
U14's/u16's/u18's/u21's	30-40	4
U14's/u16's/u18's/u21's	40-50	5
Adults		2

Toilet Supervision:

If the group has both boys and girls there will be at least one male and one female responsible adult supervising visits to the toilet.

In larger groups of children, we encourage groups to take a comfort break together with one responsible adult while the other adult(s) supervise the remaining children.

Travelling:

The recommended ratios and checks will be in place and will depend on some of the factors mentioned previously including: -

- The size of the group.
- Age of the children, their behaviours and needs.
- Size of the vehicle that you are traveling in.

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- If travelling in a vehicle, there will be one adult driving and a minimum of one adult supervising, depending on the size of the group.
- All necessary DBS checks will be in place.
- Drop off and pick up points will be clearly communicated to parents and carers and it will be clear to everyone how young people are completing any onward journey.
- See our WBSA Travel Policy ([here](#))

Overnight stays:

When children and young people are taken away to compete in national/international events, factors identified previously will be in place. In addition, there will be appropriate levels of supervision throughout the night. Adult's bedrooms will be in close proximity to young people's room - ideally on the same floor.

Young people will be advised what they should do if they have a concern during the night. It will also be clear what time young people need to be in their own rooms and a register taken so that they are accounted for. Please see our WBSA Travel Policy for full details ([here](#)).

Supervising children/young people during down time between activities:

Arrangements will be in place to supervise young people during mealtimes and also during any time before they go to bed. This may involve organising additional activities or agreeing what young people are allowed to do, whilst still knowing where they are and that they are safe. For example, if they want to return to their rooms or a communal area. WBSA staff keep all our participants and parents together in a what's App group and all contact details will be available.

Young People Supervisors:

WBSA provide opportunities for under-18s to coach, officiate, volunteer, or organise events for other children, including achieving qualifications and awards. These opportunities allow young people to develop skills, experience and confidence but will not mean that we depend on them to take full responsibility for managing groups of children. Under-18s in coaching or other roles will only be in a supporting role to the adult with overall responsibility for supervising the activity.

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Parents as Supervisors:

WBSA encourages parents to accompany children to events/activities. However we do not include parents in supervision calculations, unless the parents are acting in a formal volunteering role or other capacity during the event/activity. Supervising parents will meet the appropriate requirements in terms of:

- Clarity about their role.
- Appropriate DBS background checks suitable to their role.
- Safe recruitment interviews and processing.
- Undertaking relevant safeguarding children training.
- Who has overall responsibility for the group.
- What is acceptable practice.
- Knowledge of WBSA policies and contracts.



Andy Rogers
WBSA Chairman



Anthony Krysa
WBSA Safeguarding Officer

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