



## Seaford Striders

### Lift-Sharing Policy for Junior Athletes Attending Track Night

#### 1. Purpose of the Policy

This policy sets out the expectations and safeguarding requirements for lift sharing involving junior Seaford Striders members (under 18) travelling to and from club-organised track sessions. It aims to support participation while ensuring the safety and well-being of all young athletes.

#### 2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All junior athletes attending club track nights.
- Parents and carers arranging transport.
- Coaches, volunteers and club officials.
- Any adult offering transport to junior members.

The club does not provide transport and does not arrange lift sharing on behalf of Juniors.

#### 3. Safeguarding Principles

- Junior athletes must **not** travel alone in a vehicle with an unrelated adult unless a parent or carer has **explicitly agreed in advance**.
- The club recommends that **two or more juniors travel together** where possible.
- Coaches and volunteers should avoid providing one-to-one lifts unless unavoidable and pre-agreed with the parent or carer.
- All adults offering lifts must:
  - Hold a valid driving licence.
  - Use a roadworthy, insured vehicle.
  - Follow all road-safety and child-safeguarding expectations.
- Any concerns about a child's welfare must be reported to the Club Welfare Officer.

#### 4. Arranging Lift Sharing

- Lift sharing must be arranged **between parents or carers**, not between juniors.
- Parents may use the club's designated communication channels (e.g., WhatsApp, Spond, email list) to coordinate transport.
- Parents are responsible for confirming:
  - Pick-up and drop-off times and locations.
  - Who will be travelling in the vehicle.
  - Who is responsible for the child before and after the session.

#### 5. Responsibilities of Drivers

Adults offering lifts must:

- Arrive and depart at the agreed times.
- Ensure all passengers wear seatbelts.
- Avoid unplanned stops unless necessary.
- Not drive if unwell, fatigued or otherwise unsafe.
- Ensure appropriate behaviour and boundaries are maintained during the journey.
- Inform parents and coaches promptly if delays or issues arise.

#### 6. Drop-Off and Collection

- Parents remain responsible for ensuring their child is safely dropped off and collected.
- The club cannot supervise juniors outside the advertised session times.
- Any last-minute changes to transport arrangements must be communicated to the driver and the lead coach.

#### 7. Data Protection and Communication

- Contact details shared for lift-sharing purposes must be used **only** for arranging transport.
- The club will not share personal information without consent.
- Juniors must not be added to adult messaging groups or contacted directly by adults arranging lifts.

#### 8. When Lift Sharing May Not Be Appropriate

Lift sharing may not be suitable when:

- A child has additional needs requiring specialist supervision.
- A parent or carer is uncomfortable with the arrangement.
- The driver is unknown to the family and no prior agreement has been made.
- Safeguarding concerns have been raised about any party involved.

#### 9. Club Responsibilities

The club will:

- Provide clear safeguarding guidance and a named Welfare Officer.
- Communicate session times and changes promptly.
- Promote a culture of safe, supportive and responsible participation.
- Review this policy annually or following any safeguarding incident.

Policy written and published 24/3/26 by Emily Danvers, Junior Coach,