

WESTFIELD & DISTRICT CRICKET & SPORTS CLUB

Private Ground: GREENMEADS, WESTFIELD, WOKING, SURREY, GU22 9QJ

Founded 1875

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION AND ADULTS AT RISK POLICY

Part 1 - Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Westfield & District Cricket & Sports Club (the Club) has considered its responsibilities to the young people participating in bowls & cricket & darts at our premises and within our Club very carefully, and has produced the following Policy and underpinning procedures in order to set out the standards we wish to uphold in providing activities for children and safeguarding the welfare of children in our care.

The Club affiliates to the National Governing Bodies (NGBs) and the Club recognises the policies of their Governing Bodies, as set in out in the "Safeguarding Bowls Guidelines" and the ECB's "Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children".

1. Policy Statement

The Club acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard the welfare of all young people (defined as those under 18) involved in bowls & cricket & darts within the Club. All young people have a right to protection, and to have their particular needs taken into account.

The Club will therefore endeavour to ensure the safety and protection of all young people involved with the Club and will appoint a Club Safeguarding Officer. It is the responsibility of all adults within the Club to assist the Management Committee in this endeavour.

2. Policy Aims

- To provide young people with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of the Club and also help them to enjoy their experience of the sport of bowls & cricket & darts.
- To reassure parents that their children will receive the best practicable care possible whilst participating in activities within the Club.
- To provide support to Club members and volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues and to fulfil their role effectively.

3. Principles

- The welfare of young people is paramount.
- All young people, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, ethnic origin and religious beliefs have the right to protection from abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- All staff and volunteers have a responsibility to report concerns to their Club Safeguarding Officer.

- Adults – Club members, volunteers, coaches, referees and members will be supported to understand their role and responsibility with regard to the duty of care and protection of young people by the Club and the National Governing Body.
- Individuals will receive support through education and training, coordinated by the Club/NGBs to be aware of and understand best practice and how to manage any child protection issues that may come to light.
- The Club will work in partnership with young people and parents to review and implement child protection and safeguarding procedures.
- The Club will ensure access to confidential information relating to child safeguarding matters is restricted to those who need to know in order to safeguard children, e.g. Club Safeguarding Officer, appropriate external authorities, etc

4. Responsibilities and Communication

- This Policy will be available to all members, parents, staff, volunteers and participants.
- The Management Committee has responsibility for ensuring that the policy and procedures are implemented, including referring any appropriate disciplinary action to the national governing body as appropriate.
- Parents have a responsibility to work together with the Club in implementing procedures and providing their children with the necessary information to keep themselves safe.
- The Club Safeguarding Officer has responsibility for responding to any allegations, concerns or child protection incidents, passing information to the appropriate NGB Safeguarding Officer and informing the appropriate Club staff where relevant.
- The Club Safeguarding Officer* is available:
 - a) As the first point of contact for parents, children and volunteers/staff of the Club
 - b) As a local source of procedural advice for the Club, its committee and members
 - c) As the main point of contact within the Club for the Safeguarding Teams of both cricket (ECB – County Safeguarding Officer) and Bowls (NGB – Safeguarding Officer)
 - d) As the main point of contact within the Club for relevant external agencies in connection with child safeguarding

*Details of the County Safeguarding Officer/NGB Safeguarding Officer are available in case the Club Safeguarding Officer is unavailable or the concern relates to the Club Safeguarding Officer.

5 Specific Rules

- Adults must not shower at the same time as young people and should try not to change at the same time.
- Parents/carers are responsible for the safe delivery and collection of their child for matches or training. Child players should be encouraged to arrive and leave in playing kit.
- Any photography and video footage taken must be undertaken appropriately. It is important to note that the taking of images of adults and children in a public place without consent is often unwelcome.
- Any concerns should be reported to the Club Safeguarding Officer.

Part 2 - Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy

The Club affiliates to the National Governing Body and the Club recognises the policies of their Governing Body, as set in out in the "Safeguarding Bowls Guidelines".

Policy Aims

- The purpose of this policy is to outline the duty and responsibility of staff/volunteers working on behalf of the Club in relation to Safeguarding Adults at risk.
- All adults have the right to be safe from harm and must be able to live free from fear of abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Objectives

- Everyone who participates in bowls & cricket & darts is entitled to do so in a safe and enjoyable environment.
- The Club is committed to helping everyone accept their responsibility to safeguard adults at risk, from harm and abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Staff and volunteers working with adults at risk have a responsibility to report concerns to their Club Safeguarding Officer.

Definition of an Adult at Risk

- An Adult (a person aged 18 or over) who 'is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation'.
(Definition from the Department of Health 2002)
- This could include people with learning disabilities, mental health problems, older people and people with a physical disability or impairment. It may also include victims of domestic abuse, hate crime and anti- social behaviour. The persons' need for additional support to protect themselves may be increased when complicated by additional factors, such as, physical frailty or chronic illness, sensory impairment, challenging behaviour, drug or alcohol problems, social or emotional problems, poverty or homelessness.

Types of Abuse

The Department of Health in its 'No Secrets' 2000 report suggests the following as the main types of abuse:

- a) **Physical abuse** - including hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, restraint, or inappropriate sanctions.
- b) **Sexual abuse** - including rape and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the vulnerable adult has not consented or could not consent or was pressured into consenting.
- c) **Psychological abuse** - including emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling,

intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks.

- d) **Financial or material abuse** - including theft, fraud, exploitation, pressure in connection with wills, property or inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.
- e) **Neglect and acts of omission** - including ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, social care or educational services, the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating.
- f) **Discriminatory abuse** - including race, sex, culture, religion, politics, that is based on a person's disability, age or sexuality and other forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment, hate crime.
- g) **Institutional abuse** - Institutional abuse although not a separate category of abuse in itself, requires specific mention simply to highlight that adults placed in any kind of care home or day care establishment are potentially vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. This can be especially so when care standards and practices fall below an acceptable level as detailed in the contract specification.
- h) **Multiple forms of abuse** - Multiple forms of abuse may occur in an ongoing relationship or an abusive service setting to one person, or to more than one person at a time, making it important to look beyond single incidents or breaches in standards, to underlying dynamics and patterns of harm. Any or all of these types of abuse may be perpetrated as the result of deliberate intent and targeting of adults at risk, negligence or ignorance.

Responsibilities and Communication

- This Policy is available to all members, parents, staff, volunteers and participants. It is important that adults at risk are protected from abuse. All complaints, allegations or suspicions must be taken seriously with the Club Safeguarding Officer passing information to the appropriate NGB Safeguarding Officer and informing the appropriate Club staff where relevant.
- The Club has responsibility for ensuring that the policy and procedures are implemented, including referring any appropriate disciplinary action to the national governing body as appropriate.

The Role of Key Individual Agencies

- **Adult Social Services** - All local authorities have a Safeguarding Adults Board, which oversees multi-agency work aimed at protecting and safeguarding vulnerable adults.
- **The Police** - The Police play a vital role in Safeguarding Adults with cases involving alleged criminal acts. It becomes the responsibility of the police to investigate allegations of crime by preserving and gathering evidence. Where a crime is identified, the police will be the lead agency and they will direct investigations in line with legal and other procedural protocols.
- **All responsible agencies** work together to ensure a coherent policy for the protection of vulnerable adults at risk of abuse.

Safeguarding Contacts & Useful Websites

Club Safeguarding Officer Daniel Hutchings

e-mail: cricketclub@the-hutchings.com

Mobile: 07909 927050

County Safeguarding Officer (ECB) – Heidi Langrish

e-mail: cwo@surreycricket.com Tel: 07773 394218

NGB Safeguarding Officer (Bowls England) - Alistair Hollis

e-mail: alistairhollis@bowlsengland.com Tel: 07765 050408

NSPCC Contact: Tel 0808 800 500; www.thecpsu.org.uk or www.nspcc.org.uk
e-mail help@nspcc.org.uk

ChildLine (a free 24hr helpline for children): Tel 0800 1111; www.childline.org.uk

MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub)

(children's based at Guildford Police Station) – mash@surreycc.gov.uk –

(adults' now based at Millmead House, Guildford) ascmash@surreycc.gov.uk

Contact: (children & adults): 0300 470 9100; out of hours 01483 517898

The Police (non-emergency) – dial 101

Surrey Safeguarding Children Board - www.surreyscp.org.uk

Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board - www.surreysab.org.uk

These sites have other relevant Safeguarding links

Monitoring and Review

- The Policy will be reviewed every three years by the Management Committee and amended as appropriate. Guidance from NGBs will be sought as part of the review process.

This Policy was adopted and agreed by the Westfield & District Cricket & Sports Club Committee.

Signed:

Name: Brian Francis



Officer Position: Chairman

Date:

28/5/2026