



Woodford-cum-Membris Bowls Club

Child, Young Person & Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy Statement

Woodford-cum-Membris Bowls Club has a duty of care to safeguard from harm all children, young people and vulnerable adults and fully accepts its legal and moral obligation to exercise its duty of care and to protect all those participating in its activities. This policy sets out the Club's commitment to protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults from abuse in sport.

We are committed to do this by acknowledging that:

- the welfare of the individual is paramount and must always be the first consideration;
- each individual irrespective of age, gender, religion, race, disability or sexual identity has the right to protection from abuse;
- each individual has a right to be safe, and to be treated with respect, integrity and dignity.

The Club will take all necessary steps within its authority to ensure the safety and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults participating in lawn bowls by adhering to this policy. To do this, the Club has established relevant procedures for prevention, education and training and a code of practice and behaviour. The Club will endeavour to:

- provide children, young people and vulnerable adults with appropriate supervision and protection in a safe environment, promotes fair play and provide enthusiastic and constructive feedback;
- ensure that the Club maintains open channels of communication with children, young people and vulnerable adults, as well as parents, guardians and carers;
- ensure that all Club members who come into contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults will be required to provide information for screening purposes and have access to relevant guidance and training;
- ensure that any Club member responsible for coaching children, young people or vulnerable adults undergoes an Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) check.
- ensure that any photographing or videoing of children or vulnerable adults is prearranged with the Club Officer, that requests are made in writing and that all parental/carer approval is sought beforehand;
- ensure that all suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately;
- ensure that the Club shall cooperate with the police and child welfare authorities in relation to any reports of abuse and maintains confidentiality in all cases involving child protection in line with current legislation;
- ensure that a Club member shall be appointed annually as Child Protection Officer to whom members can address any concerns;
- ensure that playing and coaching areas are made as safe as possible, while recognising that accidents may happen, and that children under the age of twelve are not be left unsupervised in any location at any time;
- ensure that the Club supports the development of all members including those with health and learning difficulties. Parents, guardians and carers have a responsibility to obtain appropriate medical advice and keep the Club informed;
- ensure that the Club committee shall continually review the effectiveness of the policy.

The Club's Child Protection Safeguarding Officer is:

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