

Wherwell Cricket Club

Founded 1865



Safeguarding Policy Statement

Wherwell Cricket Club recognises that it has a Duty of Care and has adopted and is implementing the “Safe Hands” Policy developed by the E.C.B. (England and Wales Cricket Board). This has the aim of safeguarding all within the cricket community and their guests, but especially children (defined as all persons under the age of 18).

The Safe Hands Manual is a comprehensive set of guidelines designed to increase general awareness of mandatory requirements and good practice. This Manual is held by the WCC Welfare Officer, who is currently: **Steve Bonser** Tel: **01264 860284** Stephen.bonser1@mypostoffice.co.uk

The Welfare Officer is the first point of contact for anyone with concerns about poor practice within the club. All allegations will be treated seriously and appropriate action swiftly taken. This might involve the Hampshire ECB Welfare Officer and/or other safeguarding agencies.

All members, especially children, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability, have the right to enjoy the game within a fun and friendly environment and without abuse of any kind. Abuse might be physical, emotional, and sexual or result from neglect or bullying.

WCC has developed policy in various areas and ensures that appropriate procedures are followed. The primary responsibility for this lies with the Welfare Officer and any questions concerning the Policy and any issues raised should, in the first instance, be referred to him. However, it is the responsibility of all within the club to be familiar with and to affect good practice.

An important element to safeguarding is the recruitment, training and vetting, primarily through DBS (previously CRB) checks, of all individuals within the club (volunteers and any paid staff) who have significant involvement with children.

Other important areas of Policy and Procedures, including the briefest of summaries, are as follows:

- **Health & Safety** risk assessment, including adherence to ECB guidance on the wearing of helmets, fielding regulations, net safety, bowling directives and other considerations.
- **Discipline Procedure** and **Antibullying** – please see our **Code of Conduct**.
- **Changing Rooms and Showering** - separate age and gender arrangements.
- **Photography** (to include video and the use of images by the press and others) – parents and children to have the opportunity to decline photography. Names disassociated from photos.
- **Transport** – parents/guardians responsible for own children.
- **Supervising children at cricket sessions** and away from the club. Player Profiles include key personal data and various consent sections for parental approval.
- **Social media**, texts and email - consent before posting any personal information on line.
- **Confidentiality** and data protection. Respect for privacy.

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