



TEMPLATE FOR OPEN-AGE ADULT CLUBS WITH 16/17-YEAR-OLD PLAYERS, AS WELL AS CLUBS WITH ADULT AND YOUTH TEAMS



FOOTBALL CLUB SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN POLICY

1. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

As an England Accredited Club

Football Club acknowledge our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person directly connected with our club and are committed to providing a safe environment for all. We recognise that those aged 16/17 years-of-age are legally defined as children and therefore we have a responsibility to ensure appropriate safeguards are in place. As such we subscribe to The Football Association's (The FA) Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures.

Our football club endorses and adopts the following key safeguarding principles:

- The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration;
All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their; age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status or civil partnership, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability, pregnancy and maternity;
All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately; and Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents/carers is essential.

Football Club acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice inappropriate behaviour and abuse. This is the responsibility of every adult involved in our club including the parents/carers of our players and we will effectively communicate this to our members throughout the season.

We commit to ensuring that young people have the right to take part, be heard and have their views and opinions taken into consideration when making club decisions and actions that concern them.

2. OUR ROLE

[add club name] has a responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. It is noted and accepted that The FA's Safeguarding Children Regulations (see The FA Handbook) apply to everyone in football whether in a paid or voluntary capacity, including coaches/managers, volunteers, match officials, helpers on club tours, or medical staff or other club officials/helpers.

3. SAFER RECRUITMENT

We endorse and adopt The FA's Safer Recruitment guidelines and where an individual is going to take on a specific role for the club we will:

- Specify what the role is and what tasks it involves;
Request identification documents;
As a minimum meet and chat with the applicant(s) and where possible interview people before appointing them;
Ask for and follow up with 2 references before appointing someone; and
Where eligible require an FA- accepted DBS enhanced with barred list Check, in line with The FA's current Safeguarding Children Policy and Regulations.

Football Club members working in eligible roles with children and young people, such as coaches/managers, first aiders and physiotherapists, are required to hold an in-date FA accepted DBS enhanced with barred list check as part of safer recruitment practice and we commit to managing this consistently with individuals in current roles and those new to role.

If there are concerns regarding the appropriateness of a club official who is already involved or who has approached us to become part of Football Club, guidance will be sought from the County Football Association (CFA) Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO).

It is accepted that The FA aims to prevent people with a history of relevant and significant offending from having contact with children or young people and the opportunity to influence policies or practice with children or young people. This is to prevent direct sexual or physical harm to children and to minimise the risk of football being used in the grooming of children.

4. WHISTLE-BLOWING

Football Club supports The FA's Whistle Blowing policy (as described in this paragraph), which requires any adult or young person with concerns about an adult in a position of trust within football can 'whistle blow' by contacting The FA Safeguarding Team by writing to The FA Case Manager at The Football Association, Wembley Stadium, PO Box 1966, London SW1P 9EQ, by emailing Safeguarding@TheFA.com or alternatively by going direct to the Police, Children's Social Care or the NSPCC. [add club name] encourages everyone to know about The FA's Whistle Blowing Policy and to utilise it as necessary.



Back to Whole Game



Help



The Grassroots Code

Christopher Lihou Tue 12th November 2024



FA Club Rules / Constitution

Christopher Lihou Tue 13th February 2024



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