



Kent Cricket Board Policy Document Child Protection & Welfare

Introduction

The Kent Cricket Board is committed to ensuring that all young people (aged under 18) who play cricket in the county have a safe and positive experience. In so doing the Kent Cricket Board is aiming to fully implement the ECB 'Safe Hands' policy document whilst adhering to all other ECB recommendations.

Kent Cricket Board is committed to developing and implementing policies and procedures at all Clubs within the County from the County Cricket Club downwards. These should ensure that everyone knows and accepts their responsibility in relation to a duty of care for young people. This should include correct and comprehensive reporting procedures, good practice, sound recruitment procedures and CRB checks for all those individuals working within cricket in a paid or voluntary capacity and the appointment of a Club Child Welfare Officer.

It is not the responsibility of the individuals within a Cricket club to determine if abuse has taken place, but it is their responsibility to confidentially report concerns to the relevant Child Protection experts.

Underpinning principles

- All young people within Kent cricket, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability have the right to be protected.
- All young people participating in cricket have a right to do so in a safe environment
- Adults working within cricket will aim to provide a safe, positive and fun cricketing experience for all young people
- Adult volunteers, coaches, umpires and scorers will understand and be supported in their role with regard to duty of care for young people.
- Individuals - notably District and Club Welfare Officers - will receive support through education and training provided by ECB, local authorities and the Kent Cricket Board in order to be enabled to adopt and implement the ECB Welfare of Young People policy in the 'Safe Hands' publication.
- All well-founded suspicions and allegations will be taken seriously, managed and dealt with swiftly, appropriately and **confidentially** by the County WO or his assistants.
- The Kent Cricket Board recognises its responsibility to the ECB and recognises the responsibility of the relevant statutory agencies.
- It is the responsibility of the child protection experts (Police, Social Services, NSPCC, ECB and KCB County WO's) to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is the responsibility of all those working within cricket to always report any serious concerns without delay.
- **Confidentiality** is crucial. Not all concerns or allegations are well-founded and the protection of the person concerned and the child involved has to be fully considered whilst these concerns or allegations are investigated.

Duty of Care

The duty of an individual, organisation, Cricket club or the Kent Cricket Board is to ensure the safety and welfare of any young person involved in cricket or related activities, to safeguard them and protect them from reasonably foreseeable forms of harm or physical, emotional or sexual abuse.

Associated policies and implementations

The Kent Cricket Board has, in conjunction with the ECB, initiated a number of associated policies, guidelines and codes over a period of time to help all individuals and clubs with the implementation of good child protection and welfare practice.

These include:

- Good practice guidelines
- Poor practice guidelines
- Codes of conduct for adults working with young people, parents and the young people themselves.
- Guidelines on photography and use of video equipment
- Guidelines on use of changing rooms and transportation
- Recruitment guidelines
- Equity policy
- Anti-discrimination policy
- Health and Safety policy
- Fast bowling, batting and fielding directives

Copies of the above policies are available on request from the Kent Cricket Board Office

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Kent Cricket Board