

WORCESTER BOWLING CLUB

Founded 1867

Affiliated to Bowls England and W.C.B.A.

Wood Terrace, Sansome Walk Worcester WR1 1NY

Email: worcesterbowlsclub@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone : 07591 494899

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Worcester Bowls Club has considered its responsibilities to the young people participating in bowls at our premises and within our club very carefully, and has produced the following Safeguarding and Child Protection 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 whilst on the Club premises.

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

1. Policy Statement

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

Worcester Bowls Club will therefore endeavour to ensure the safety and protection of all young people involved with the club through the Child Protection guidelines adopted by the Management Committee of the club. 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 they are on the Club premises and also help them to enjoy their experience of the sport of bowls.
- 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 working in bowls have a responsibility to report concerns to their Club Safeguarding Officer.
- Adults – club members, volunteers, coaches, umpires 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/national governing body to be aware of and understand best practice and how to manage any welfare or child protection issues that may come to light.

- Worcester Bowls Club will work in partnership with young people and parents to review and implement child protection and safeguarding procedures.
- Worcester Bowls Club's policy and procedures are based on the above principles and UK and international legislation and government guidance and take the following into consideration:
 - The Children Act 1989 and 2004.
 - Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015.
 - The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
 - Any subsequent legislation relating to child protection would implicitly be incorporated into this document.

4. Responsibilities and Communication

- The Worcester Bowls Club Child Protection Policy will be available on the Club premises 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.

- The Club Safeguarding Officer has responsibility for responding to any allegations, concerns or child protection incidents, passing information to the appropriate Bowls England Safeguarding Officer and informing the appropriate club members where relevant.
- 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.

5. Monitoring and review

- The policy will be monitored in partnership with Bowls England and Bowls Development Alliance procedures.

6. Exceptions to the above for Worcester Bowls Club

To ensure full safeguarding of Children at Worcester Bowling Club the following conditions shall supersede and be exceptions to other clauses where applicable in this Policy.

- a. Where children up to the age of 18 years old are involved with the Club as Junior Bowling Members or visitors to the Club they shall be accompanied and under the full supervision of the Parent/s who will take full responsibility for their child's welfare.
- b. Appertaining to children over the age of 18 years the Parent/s can nominate, by agreement, a Club Bowling Member to supervise their child whilst involved with the Club but it remains the Parent/s responsibility for any risks associated with this arrangement.