

# **GREAT BADDOW BOWLS CLUB**

## **SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

Great Baddow Bowls Club has considered its responsibilities to young people (under 18 years of age) and adults participating in bowls at our premises. It also recognises that spectators and visitors may attend the premises. We have produced the following **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy** in order to set out the standards we wish to uphold in providing activities for both children and adults - thus safeguarding the welfare of everyone whilst attending The Club.

### **Policy Statement - Young People**

**Great Baddow Bowls Club** acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard the welfare of all young people and adults involved in activities at the club. Young people in particular have a right of protection and have their particular needs taken into account.

**Great Baddow 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 aim.**

### **Policy Aims**

To provide young people with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of the club and also help them to enjoy the experience of the sport of bowls.

To reassure parents / guardians / carers that their children will receive the best practicable care possible whilst visiting and participating in activities at the club.

To provide club members and volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues and to fulfil their role effectively.

## **Principles**

The welfare of young people is paramount.

All young people whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, ethnic origin or 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.

Adults -club members, volunteers, coaches, referees, and members will be supported to understand their roles and responsibilities with regard to the duty of care and protection by the club and the National Governing Body.

Individuals will receive support through education and training to be aware of best practice and how to deal with any welfare or child protection issues that may come to light.

**Great Baddow Bowls Club** will work in partnership with young people and parents / guardians / carers to review and implement child protection and safeguarding issues.

**All staff and volunteers working within the bowls club have a responsibility to report concerns to the Club Safeguarding Officer.**

**Great Baddow 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 2018

The UN Convention of Rights of a Child

## **Responsibilities and Communication**

**Great Baddow Bowls Club** Child Protection Policy will be available to all members, parents, guardians, carers, staff, volunteers and participants as a hard copy document to be found in the Club House Office. **An abridged version will be available on the Club Website.**

The policy will be reviewed every three years by the Management Committee and amended where appropriate. Guidance from Bowls National Governing Body will be sought as part of the review process.

The Management Committee has the responsibility to ensure that the policy and procedures are implemented including referring any appropriate disciplinary action to the national governing body.

## **Responsibilities and Communication (Cont'd)**

The Club Safeguarding Officer has responsibility for responding to any allegations or concerns or child protection incidents. They should pass any information to the appropriate NGB Safeguarding Officer and inform the appropriate club officials where relevant.

Parents / Guardians and Carers have a responsibility to work together with **Great Baddow Bowls Club** in implementing procedures and providing their children with the necessary information to keep themselves safe.

## **Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be reviewed one year after being introduced and every three years thereafter or in response to a significant change in legislation.

The policy will be monitored in partnership with the NGB and Bowling Development Alliance Procedures.

## **SAFEGUARDING ADULTS**

Whilst the policy above is predominantly concerned with the welfare of young people, **Great Baddow Bowls Club** recognises the importance of safeguarding adults as well. Whilst the majority of adults are not as vulnerable to physical abuse; they may be subjected to verbal or emotional abuse. Harassment because of race or disability may also be a safeguarding issue.

If any adult whilst on the premises of **Great Baddow Bowls Club** in whatever capacity feels that they have experienced any of the above - they should notify the Safeguarding Officer who will investigate it. Whilst this will be treated in total confidence, any individual adult may approach a friend who they trust, to support them when they inform the Safeguarding Officer of their allegation.

Richard Barkley ( Safeguarding Officer ) June 2024