
SAFEGUARDING AND PROTECTING YOUNG PEOPLE

Rhondda Ladies Hockey Club



SAFEGUARDING AND PROTECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN HOCKEY

RHONDDA LADIES HOCKEY CLUB adopts Hockey Wales' Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey Policy and works in accordance with the following statement:

Introduction

RHONDDA LADIES HOCKEY CLUB is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all young people involved in hockey. It accepts its responsibility to help safeguard the welfare of all young people and protect them from poor practice, abuse and bullying.

Every individual and organisation involved in hockey in Wales has a role and responsibility to help ensure the safety and welfare of young people.

RHONDDA LADIES HOCKEY CLUB as a provider of opportunities for young people in hockey accepts that we are required to fulfil our duty of care, which means that we must do everything that can be reasonably expected of us to help safeguard and protect young people from any reasonably foreseeable harm.

Obligations under this policy:

Everyone within RHONDDA LADIES HOCKEY CLUB must act in accordance with:

- The general principles set out in this policy; and
- The principles set out in the particular policies below, together with the supporting good practice document:
 - The recruitment of persons working with young people
 - The use of CRB checks in recruitment and employment
 - Anti-bullying Policy and Procedures
 - Taking and use of photographic and recorded images of young people

Affiliation to Hockey Wales will evidence agreement of these obligations by the club and membership of RHONDDA LADIES HOCKEY CLUB will evidence agreement by its members and associated partners (for avoidance of doubt Hockey Wales view these as the following all players, anyone working with hockey in a paid or voluntary capacity, including all coaches, umpires, club administrators and other officials).



RHONDDA LADIES HOCKEY CLUB has in addition, adopted and implemented Hockey Wales:

- Safeguarding and Protecting Young People Policy which complies with the general principles set out in this policy; and

Everyone within RHONDDA LADIES HOCKEY CLUB must also:

Abide by Hockey Wales' Code of Ethics, which specifies conduct in relation to the safeguarding of young people within hockey, among other issues Follow Hockey Wales reporting procedures where there are concerns relating to the safety or welfare of young people.

For clarity, policies, procedures and good practice relating to the safeguarding of young people in hockey need to be applied both in relation to activities for young people specifically and where young people may be involved within the adult game. For example, where players or umpires under 18 years of age are incorporated into adult team hockey.

Hockey Wales' role:

As the National Governing Body, Hockey Wales will publicise and promote within hockey its Safeguarding Young People Policy, Procedures and Good Practice Guidance. It will also support its affiliated clubs and associations in adopting and implementing their policies by producing template policies and procedures and through access to appropriate training and education opportunities.

Hockey Wales is committed to ensuring that concerns relating to the safety and welfare of young people in hockey are taken seriously and acted upon swiftly and appropriately. To achieve this, Hockey Wales has developed procedures for reporting concerns.

Hockey Wales recognises the roles and responsibilities of the statutory agencies in safeguarding young people and the responsibilities and expertise of the relevant agencies in determining whether young people have, or may have, been abused or otherwise harmed. Hockey Wales is committed to complying with the procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) ⁴. Accordingly, Hockey Wales will work co-operatively with the relevant statutory agencies on matters relating to safeguarding young people and where Hockey Wales receives report of a concern, it will refer the matter to the relevant statutory agency where appropriate.

Hockey Wales is also committed to directly challenging conduct within hockey that is, or may be, harmful to young people. It may, therefore, instigate proceedings under its own

Safeguarding and Protecting Young People Complaints and Disciplinary Regulations where concerns or complaints are raised (by sources internal or external to hockey) relating to the safety and welfare of young people. Hockey Wales will take action against any person or organisation within its jurisdiction whose conduct is found to have harmed a young person in hockey or whose conduct (within or outside hockey) poses or may pose a risk of harm to young people in hockey. Hockey Wales may also refer matters back to a club for resolution at club level where appropriate.

RHONDDA LADIES HOCKEY CLUB will follow Hockey Wales's Reporting Procedures and will make all their members aware that they are subject to the above Regulations if there is a breach of the Policy.

General Safeguarding and Protecting Young People principles:

- The safety and welfare of young people is paramount.
- All young people, regardless of age, ability, sex, race, religion or belief, ethnic origin, social status or sexual orientation have the right to be protected from harm.
- The rights, dignity and worth of all young people should always be respected.
- RHONDDA LADIES HOCKEY CLUB wishes to promote a telling culture. Everyone within hockey must therefore report all concerns in accordance with Hockey Wales's reporting procedures.
- It is the responsibility of child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is everyone in hockey's responsibility to report concerns,
- The roles and responsibilities of the statutory agencies in safeguarding young people must be recognised and the procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards must be complied with.
- Any policy or procedure is only as effective as the ability and skill of those who operate it.
- RHONDDA LADIES HOCKEY CLUB is committed to encouraging, and everyone within hockey must recognise and regard as essential, the effective and safe recruitment of all individuals working with young people in hockey.
- All those working in hockey, in a paid or voluntary capacity, must abide by Hockey Wales's Code of Ethics.

Guidance and legislation:

The practices and procedures within this policy and documentation are based on the principles contained within UK and international legislation and Government guidance and have been designed to complement Local Safeguarding Children Boards procedures and take the following into consideration:

- The Children Acts 1989 and 2004
- The Protection of Children Act 1999
- The Police Act 1997; Policing and Crime Act 2009
- Children, Schools and Families Act 2010
- Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Care Standards Act 2000
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- The Protection of Freedom Bill (currently going through parliament)
- *Safe From Harm: a code of practice for safeguarding the welfare of children in voluntary organisations in Wales* (Welsh Assembly 2007)
- *Children and Young People: Rights to Action* (Welsh Assembly 2004)
- *Safeguarding Children: Working Together Under the Children Act 2004* (Welsh Assembly 2007)
- *All Wales Child Protection Procedures 2008* (produced on behalf of all LSCBs in Wales)

Disclosures