



# Wicken Sports Club Safeguarding Policy

## **WHO DOES THE POLICY APPLY TO?**

This policy applies to all members , officers and volunteers.

Wicken Sports Club recognises the importance of its support services to families, children, young people and adults and its particular responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of those who are vulnerable or at risk.

The welfare of a child or vulnerable adult is paramount whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religion or sexual identity and they have the right to be protected from abuse. The Club recognises that some children, young people and vulnerable adults are additionally vulnerable to abuse due to their disability, level of dependence, communication needs or other issues. The Club will always take extra care to look out for signs of abuse in this group of individuals and ensure that their needs are not neglected due to difficulties they may have in communicating signs of abuse. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to immediately and the appropriate action taken.

## **THE PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY IS TO:**

- Protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who receive support or access events run or hosted by Wicken Sports Club. This includes children of adult sufferers.
- Provide members, officers and volunteers with information on safeguarding in line with current legislation.
- Set out the Club's responsibilities towards the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

## **LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

This policy has been drawn up using laws and guidance from the following:

### **Laws and guidance relating to children:**

- The Children Act 1989 / The Children Act 2004
- The Children and Families Act 2014
- United convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Protection of Freedom Act 2012

### **Laws and guidance relating to vulnerable adults:**

- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006



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- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Care Act 2014
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- No secrets January 2015
- Safeguarding Adults; A national framework of standards for good practice and outcomes in adult protection work 2005

## **DEFINITIONS**

A 'Child or young person' for the purpose of this statement refers to a person under the age of 18 years. This statement applies to all children and young people regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, social orientation or religion. A 'Vulnerable Adult' is defined as someone over the age of 18 years at risk of abuse or neglect which is defined as someone who has needs for care and support, who is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect and as a result of their care needs - is unable to protect themselves. Vulnerability may be a temporary feature of environmental or personal circumstances.

## **GOOD PRACTICE**

The Club has a 'duty of care' towards the people we work with to protect them from harm. As part of its screening process we ensure that Enhanced DBS Disclosures are obtained for all officers and volunteers engaged in a regulated activity.

The sections of Wicken Sports Club, who have members who meet any of the these criteria, may also be part of safeguarding schemes associated with the professional bodies for their sport. To avoid duplication, the Committee of Wicken Sports Club will require annually, or upon request, the disclosure of the following information as part of monitoring conducted by the Safeguarding Officer appointed by Wicken Sports Club

- The scheme to which the club section belongs
- A list of volunteers working in a regulated activity with children or vulnerable adults
- Confirmation that all volunteers have had a recent Disclosure and Barring check conducted upon them
- Confirmation of what training, both initial and refresher, has been provided to the volunteers by the scheme provider
- Copies or links to online locations for policies relating to safeguarding, codes of conduct and processes to disclose concerns.
- Details of the monitoring processes and continuous risk assessment to which those volunteers are subject.

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The Club has a duty to report any member, officer or volunteer to the Independent Safeguarding Authority who has been removed from duty for allegedly causing harm or posing a risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult.

## **WHAT MEASURES THE CLUB PUTS IN PLACE TO SUPPORT AND SAFEGUARD INDIVIDUALS**

- All members, officers and volunteers will have knowledge of child protection and safeguarding vulnerable adults and know what our policy and procedures are.
- Listen to, value, encourage and support those we work with.
- Work collaboratively with local authorities and professional bodies to ensure best practice in the interest of safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.

## **SAFEGUARDING LEADS**

Wicken Sports Club has dedicated Safeguarding Leads for both children and vulnerable adults.

Safeguarding Lead : Martin Rayner

## **DEFINITION OF ABUSE**

Abuse may consist of a single act or repeated acts. It may be physical, verbal or psychological. It endangers and impairs someone's physical and emotional health and development. It may be an act of neglect or an omission to act, or it may occur in the instance of a vulnerable person who is persuaded to enter into a financial or sexual transaction to which he or she has not consented, or cannot consent.

## **UNDERSTANDING AND RECOGNISING ABUSE**

Abuse may include but is not exclusive to the following:

- Physical abuse
- Neglect / Self neglect
- Verbal abuse
- Psychological / Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse (including sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation)
- Extremism and Radicalisation
- Domestic abuse
- Modern Day Slavery

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- Mate crime and Hate crime
- Financial abuse
- Discriminatory abuse
- Organisational abuse

## **RESPONDING TO AN ALLEGATION OR SUSPECTED ABUSE**

It is important to be aware that the person first encountering a case of abuse or suspected abuse is not responsible for deciding whether or not abuse has taken place. This is the task for the professional child protection and safeguarding teams.

### **Confidentiality**

The legal principle that the "welfare of the child, young person or vulnerable adult is paramount" means that considerations of confidentiality which might apply to other situations in the organisation should not override the right of the individual to be protected from harm.

Any concern for the welfare of a child, young person or vulnerable adult must be reported immediately to one of the Safeguarding Leads and further action taken as required. The Club will make sure that all records will be limited to those who require access or have a specific interest in the issue. Records will be stored securely and destroyed within a reasonable time frame, unless there is a need to keep them.

## **RESPONDING AND REPORTING SUSPECTED ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE HOW MAY YOU BECOME AWARE?**

- The child or vulnerable adult may tell you
- The child or vulnerable adult may show you signs of physical injury
- The behaviour of the child or vulnerable adult may indicate possible abuse
- Someone else may report it to you.
- Something in the behaviour of adults may alert you or may be shown in the behaviour of the child or vulnerable adult towards them
- Observing actual abuse
- Receive a call and allegation of suspected abuse

## **IF SOMEONE DISCLOSES TO YOU OR YOU WITNESS POSSIBLE OR ACTUAL ABUSE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING:**



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- Listen carefully but do not probe or ask questions
- Never promise to keep it a secret
- Reassure the person that they have done the right thing

## **REPORT CONCERNS TO THE WICKEN SPORTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING LEADS IMMEDIATELY AND THEN WITHIN 24 HRS**

- Write up the events within 24hrs.
- The Safeguarding Leads will refer the concerns to the relevant social care department or the police and follow this up with a written report within 24 hours.

## **RECORD AND REPORT THE FOLLOWING:**

- Name of complainant and, where different, the name of the child / vulnerable adult who has allegedly been abused.
- Your name and the names of others present
- The date
- The time
- The place where the disclosure was made or was witnessed.
- The place where the alleged abuse took place.
- The nature of the alleged abuse
- A description of any injuries observed.
- The account which has been given of the allegation.