



Safeguarding Adults Policy

Applicability Statement

This policy applies equally to all those undertaking work on behalf of both Sussex Cricket Limited and the wholly owned subsidiaries, the Sussex Cricket Foundation and Sussex Cricket Estates Limited, hereafter jointly referred to as the 'organisation'.

Policy Statement

Sussex Cricket is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment and accepts responsibility to safeguard all adults involved in all levels of cricket in accordance with legislation.

Definition and Applying the Policy

Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live safely, free from abuse and neglect. Sussex Cricket Safeguarding Adults Policy applies to all individuals involved in cricket in Sussex.

Sussex Cricket will encourage and support partner organisations, to adopt and demonstrate their commitment to the principles set out in this policy. This includes but is not limited to:

- The Sussex Cricket League (SCL),
- The Aldridge @ BACA Women's League,
- All Sussex junior cricket leagues,
- The Sussex Cricket Junior Festival
- Recreational clubs in the county,

The policy relates to all adults, whatever their mental capacity or challenges. We recognise that vulnerability and being "at risk" can be due to circumstances and can be temporary.

Legislation in England defines an 'Adult at Risk' as any person aged 18 years or over, who has care and support needs, who is experiencing (or at risk of) abuse or neglect, and as a result, is unable to protect themselves from the abuse, neglect, or the risk of abuse or neglect.

Legislation commits to putting the adult at the heart of decision- making, empowering adults to make decisions for themselves with support from others where appropriate.



Aims of the Policy

The aims of our Safeguarding Adults Policy are to:

- Stop abuse or neglect wherever possible.
- Prevent harm and reduce the risk of abuse or neglect to adults with care and support needs.
- Safeguard adults in a way that supports them in making choices and having control about how they want to live and in any cricket activities they participate in.
- Promote an approach that concentrates on improving life for the adults concerned.

Raise awareness so that cricket communities, alongside safeguarding and other professionals, play their part in identifying and preventing abuse and neglect

Principles

This policy is based on the following principles:

- All adults, regardless of age, ability or disability, gender, race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital or gender status and pregnancy and maternity have the right to be protected from abuse and poor practice and to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment.
- Sussex Cricket will ensure the County Safeguarding Officer and other key staff members (e.g. Head of Disability Cricket) are suitably trained to identify and respond to any adult safeguarding concerns.
- Sussex Cricket will work with partners to ensure that cricket is inclusive and makes reasonable adjustments for any protected characteristics, ability, disability, or impairment. We will also commit to continuous development, monitoring and review.
- There is zero tolerance to the abuse of adults.
- The rights, dignity and worth of all adults will always be respected.
- We know that ability and disability can change over time, such that some adults may be additionally vulnerable to abuse, in particular those adults with care and support needs.
- Safeguarding adults is everyone's business and responsibility.
- All allegations will be taken seriously and responded to quickly in line with ECB "Safe Hands" policy and all Sussex Cricket guidance.



- Sussex Cricket welcomes and supports the role and responsibilities of the statutory agencies in safeguarding adults and is committed to complying with the procedures of Safeguarding Adults Boards in East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove local authority areas.

Making Safeguarding Personal

Making safeguarding personal, means that adult safeguarding should be person-led and focused on outcomes.

The approach should engage the person in a conversation about how best to respond to their safeguarding situation in a way that enhances involvement, choice, and control. As well as improving quality of life, well-being, and safety.

Wherever possible discuss safeguarding concerns with the adult to get their view of what they would like to happen and keep them involved in the safeguarding process, seeking their consent to share information outside of the organisation where necessary.

There may be circumstances where you need to share information with other agencies to protect an individual.

Dealing with concerns, suspicions or disclosures

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If any person has concerns about an adult's safety and wellbeing, action must be taken. It is not an individual's responsibility to decide whether or not an adult has been abused. It is, however, the responsibility of all involved in cricket to act on concerns. Information should therefore be shared with the County Safeguarding Officer at the earliest opportunity. (see details below).

Sussex Cricket will work to ensure that cricket is a safe, positive and enjoyable experience for adults. Relevant ECB safeguarding policies are adopted and implemented. The County Safeguarding Officer will complete training and ensure that they have the necessary skills to undertake their role effectively.

Sussex Cricket accepts that abuse can happen within the sport of cricket, and recognises a duty of care to act appropriately and make referrals where applicable. Appropriate guidance and training will be shared, and support will be given to ensure all those working in relevant posts within Sussex Cricket know about responding, recording and reporting procedures, and to ensure that referrals are made to the appropriate authorities in a timely manner.

Good practice and changes in legislation or policy will be shared across Sussex Cricket by the County Safeguarding Officer.



The County Safeguarding Officer will also act as a first point of contact for all involved in Sussex Cricket including staff and volunteers, members, parents, Club Safeguarding Officers, the Cricket Regulator (ECB) Safeguarding Team and relevant external agencies in connection with Adults at Risk and safeguarding.

Sussex Cricket will ensure that reporting procedures exist for raising and managing adult safeguarding concerns, working closely with statutory agencies and in accordance with good practice, ECB policy and all relevant guidelines. All involved with Sussex Cricket will have an opportunity to report and voice concerns they have regarding suspected abuse and/or poor practice to the County Safeguarding Officer which will ensure suspicions, concerns and allegations are taken seriously and managed in an appropriate way.

Confidentiality

It is important that information is treated as confidential as far as is reasonably possible to build trust and respect. If you think that sharing information with another person such as the Safeguarding Officer/Coach/Manager could help the person, encourage the person to disclose information themselves with the people who need to know.

If they do not wish to do this, explain to the individual that you will need to inform others such as the County Safeguarding Officer and the reasons why, and seek their clear and specific consent to this.

The County Safeguarding Officer will ensure that access to confidential information relating to adults at risk is restricted to the County Safeguarding Officer, the Director of People, the Cricket Regulator (ECB) Safeguarding team and appropriate external bodies, which may include the police or adult social care services in accordance with relevant ECB policies, The Data Protection Act 1989 and GDPR requirements.

Relevant Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- ECB Safeguarding Procedures (“Safe Hands”): [ECB-Safe-Hands-Policy-2023.pdf](#)
- Sussex Safeguarding Policy Statement and other relevant advice & guidance: [SAFEGUARDING | Sussex Cricket](#)