



CLUB POLICY – SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY IN HANDBALL

WEST LONDON EAGLES adopts England Handball Associations safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and works in accordance with the following statement:

West London Eagles Handball Club is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all young people involved in handball. 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 within the Handball Family has a role and responsibility to help ensure the safety and welfare of young people. The Handball Family is defined below.

West London Eagles HC as a provider of opportunities for young people in handball 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.

Definitions:

Handball Family all individuals, clubs, associations, and other organisations involved in any capacity in the game of handball, and whether or not members of England Handball Association. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes all players and anyone working within handball (in a paid or voluntary capacity, and whether as an employee or on a self-employed or other work basis) including all coaches, referees and other officials.

Young People anyone under the age of 18

Obligations under this policy:

Everyone within West London Eagles 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
 - Taking and use of photographic and recorded images of young people;

Affiliation to England Handball Association will evidence agreement of these obligations by the club and membership of WEST LONDON EAGLES will evidence agreement by the Handball Family

WEST LONDON EAGLES has in addition, adopted and implemented our own:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection policy which complies with the general principles set out in this policy; and

Everyone within the WEST LONDON EAGLES HANDBALL CLUB must also:

- Abide by England Handball Association Code of Ethics which specifies conduct in relation to the safeguarding of young people within handball among other issues
- Follow England Handball 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 handball 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 referees under 18 years of age are incorporated into adult team handball.

England Handballs Role:

As the national governing body, England Handball Association will publicise and promote within handball its Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Procedures and Good Practice Guidance. It will also support its affiliated clubs and associations in adopting and implementing their own policies by producing template policies and procedures and through access to appropriate training and education opportunities.

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

England Handball 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. England Handball is committed to complying with the procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB's) . Accordingly, England Handball will work co-operatively with the relevant statutory agencies on matters relating to safeguarding young people and where England Handball receives report of a concern, it will refer the matter to the relevant statutory agency where appropriate.

England Handball is also committed where appropriate, to directly challenging conduct within handball that is, or may be, harmful to young people. It may, therefore, instigate proceedings under its own Safeguarding and Child Protection Complaints and Disciplinary Regulations where concerns or complaints are raised (by sources internal or external to handball) relating to the safety and welfare of young people. England Handball will take action against any person or organisation within its jurisdiction whose conduct is found to have harmed a young person in handball or whose conduct (within or outside handball) poses or may pose a risk of harm to young people in handball. England Handball may also refer matters back to a club for resolution at club level where appropriate.

WEST LONDON EAGLES will follow England Handball'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 Child Protection 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
- WEST LONDON EAGLES wishes to promote a telling culture. Everyone within handball must therefore report all concerns in accordance with England Handball's reporting procedures.

- It is the responsibility of child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place but it is everyone's responsibility in handball 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
- WEST LONDON EAGLES is committed to encouraging, and everyone within handball must recognise and regard as essential, the effective and safe recruitment of all individuals working with young people in handball
- All those working in handball, in a paid or voluntary capacity, must abide by England Handball's Code of Ethics .and conduct

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
- The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974
- Criminal Justices and Court Services Act 2000
- The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Human Rights Act 1998
- The Data Protection Act 1998
- "Caring for the young and vulnerable" Home Office guidance for preventing the abuse of trust 1999
- What to do if you are Worried a Child is being Abused DOH 2006
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2006, HM Government
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006