



East Ardsley United Cricket & Athletic Club

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Child Protection Policy

East Ardsley United Cricket and Athletic Club are committed to ensuring that all young people who play cricket have a safe and positive experience and encourage all to represent the Club with the following aim:

- Promote the name of the East Ardsley United Cricket and Athletic Club to make it become the natural choice. By always setting good examples of behaviour and fair play.

East Ardsley United Cricket and Athletic Club is committed to developing and implementing policies and procedure, which ensure that everyone knows their responsibility in relation to a duty of care for young people. It is committed to ensure that good practice and sound recruitment procedures are followed for all individuals working and helping with cricket. We also ensure everyone knows the correct reporting route within the club.

The Club understands that it is not the responsibility of any individual working in cricket to determine if abuse has taken place, but it is their responsibility to act and report any concerns.

East Ardsley United Cricket and Athletic Club have adopted as their own the procedures and requirements of the – **ECB Safe Hands, Cricket Policy for Safeguarding Children.**

The underpinning principles of the Clubs policy are:

- All young people involved in East Ardsley United Cricket and Athletic Club regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability, have the right to be protected.
- All young people participating in Club activities have a right to do so in a safe environment.
- Adults working for the Club will provide a safe, positive and fun experience for the young people.
- Adults – volunteers, coaches, umpires and scorers will understand and be supported in their roles and responsibility with regard to the duty of care for young people.
- The Club will endeavour to provide support and education for those responsible for the coaching of young people.

- All suspicions and allegations will be taken seriously, managed and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

The Club Safeguarding Officer

The Club Safeguarding Officer with responsibility for the young members is:

Name: Tom Daniels

Contact No: 07756 594022

Email: tomdaniels_401@hotmail.com

The Club Safeguarding Officer will:

- Act as first point of contact for the reporting of Safeguarding and Protection matters.
- Help and safeguard young people by assisting in the promotion and implementation of the Welfare of Young People Policy at a Club level.
- To assist in the raising of awareness of others at the Club in respect of child protection.
- To be a source of advice and information within the Club.
- To uphold confidentiality, as far as is practical in all child protection matters.
- To liaise with the County Welfare Officer when appropriate.
- Ensure DBS checks are carried out on all relevant individuals working within the Club.

Anyone responding to a disclosure needs to always:

- Stay calm.
- Keep an open mind.
- Listen carefully to what is said and take the young person seriously.
- Find an appropriate early opportunity to explain that it is likely that the information will need to be shared with others – do not keep secrets.
- Ask questions for clarification only, and at all times avoid asking questions that suggest a particular answer.
- Reassure the young person that they have done the right thing by telling you.
- Tell them what you will do next and with whom the information will be shared.
- Record in writing what was said using the young persons own words as soon as possible.
- Report the incident to the Club Safeguarding Officer.

Copies of the **Club Child Protection Policy** and the **ECB Safe Hands, Crickets Policy for Safeguarding Children** are distributed at East Ardsley United Cricket and Athletic Club as follows:

- Club Safeguarding Officer
- Senior Team Captains (1st team, 2nd team and Sunday team)
- Director of Cricket
- All coaches within the Club

- Displayed on the Club notice board
- Displayed on the Club website
- Club Chairman

The Coach in charge of the session will ensure a risk assessment is carried out prior to junior activities taking place.

Definitions of Abuse, Bullying and Harassment

Abuse

Any person may abuse or neglect a Young Person by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. Young People may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger. Young People can be abused by Adults or other Young People. There is growing evidence to suggest that peer abuse is an increasing concern for Young People.

The effects of abuse can be extremely damaging and if untreated, they may follow a person into adulthood. For example, a person who has been abused as a Young Person may find it difficult or impossible to maintain a stable, trusting relationships and may become involved with drugs or prostitution, attempt suicide or even abuse a Young Person in the future.

There are four main forms of abuse:

1. **Neglect** – where Adults fail to meet a Young Persons basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the Young Persons health or development (e.g. failure to provide adequate food, shelter and clothing, failure to protect a Young Person from physical harm or danger, or the failure to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment). It may also include refusal to give Young People love, affection and attention.

Neglect in Cricket could include a Teacher or Coach not ensuring that Young People are safe, exposing them to undue cold, heat or to unnecessary risk of injury.

2. **Physical** – where someone physically hurts or injures a Young Person by hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, biting, scalding, suffocating, drowning or otherwise causing physical harm to a Young Person. Physical harm may also be caused when a Parent or Carer feigns the symptoms of, or deliberately causes, ill health to a Young Person whom they are looking after e.g. fictitious illness by proxy or Munchausen's syndrome by proxy.

Examples of physical abuse in Cricket may be when the nature and intensity of training and competition exceeds the capacity of the Young Persons immature and growing body of where drugs are used to enhance performance or delay puberty.

3. **Sexual Abuse** – where girls and boys are abused by Adults or other Young People (both male and female), who use Young People to meet their own sexual needs. This could include full sexual intercourse, masturbation, oral sex, anal intercourse and fondling. Showing Young People pornographic material (books, videos and pictures) is also a form of sexual abuse.

In Cricket, Coaching techniques, which involve physical contact with Young People, could potentially create situations where sexual abuse may go unnoticed. The power of the Coach over young performers, if misused, may also lead to abusive situations developing.

4. **Emotional Abuse** – is the persistent emotional ill treatment of a Young Person such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the Young Persons emotional development. It may involve conveying to Young People that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on Young People. It may involve causing Young People to feel frightened or in danger by being constantly shouted at, threatened or taunted which may make the Young Person very nervous and withdrawn. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of ill treatment of a Young Person.

Emotional abuse in Cricket may occur if Young People are subjected to constant criticism, name-calling, sarcasm, bullying, racism or unrealistic pressure to perform to high expectations consistently.

Bullying

Bullying is deliberately hurtful behaviour, usually repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those bullied to defend themselves. It can take many forms, the three main types are:

- Physical (e.g. hitting, kicking, theft)
- Verbal (e.g. racist or homophobic remarks, threats, name calling)
- Emotional (e.g. isolating an individual from activities and social acceptance of the peer group)

Harassment

An essential characteristic of harassment is that it is unwanted by the recipient. It is for individuals to determine what behaviour is acceptable to them and what they regard as offensive. It is the unwanted nature of the conduct, which distinguishes harassment from acceptable behaviour.

The above definitions are adapted from Department of Health (1999) "Working Together to Safeguard Children – A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children".