

RG8 Badminton Club Draft Child Protection Policy

- 1) RG8 Badminton Club (RG8BC) is a small club that provides opportunities for recreational badminton among adults from Woodcote and surrounding communities on one evening a week for up to 30 weeks per year.
- 2) RG8BC recognises the sporting and community benefits of allowing younger people to participate in a local badminton club. Hence RG8BC encourages youths of 14 years or older to play badminton on one evening a week, alongside adult club members.
- 3) RG8BC club is run entirely by volunteers. It is not affiliated to Badminton England. The club does not have a qualified coach and no coaching is offered.
- 4) RG8BC is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for young people to play badminton. It accepts its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all young people and to protect them from poor practice, abuse and bullying.
- 4) RG8BC youth members are expected to be of a minimum standard to play badminton and in the majority of cases this would require a minimum of 2 years previous playing experience.
- 5) All members of RG8BC, including youth members, are expected to abide by the General Rules of the club. These include rules on behaviour while playing badminton.

Requirements

RG8BC undertakes to

- 1) Adopt and Implement a Policy for safeguarding and protecting young people, to be the responsibility of the RG8BC management committee.
- 2) To identify a Child Welfare Officer with responsibility for implementing a policy of Best Practice and adhere to the Codes of Conduct
- 3) To provide access to appropriate training and support for those who have responsibility in relation to children.
- 4) Ensure that all committee members and club members are aware of their responsibility for Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Badminton.
- 5) Work in partnership with parents, carers and young people within the club.
- 6) Ensure that any staff or volunteers who have regular responsibility for, or a role in relation to the provision and delivery of, activities for young people undertake an Enhanced CRB disclosure/ ISA check.

7) Ensure that all concerns and reported cases are managed in line with RG8BC policies and procedures.

Policy Principles

- All young people have the right to be protected from abuse.
- The safety and welfare of young people is paramount.
- The rights, dignity and worth of all young people should always be respected.
- All allegations will be taken seriously and responded to quickly in line.
- It is the responsibility of safeguarding and child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place but it is everyone's responsibility to act appropriately and report concerns.
- Working in partnership with parents and carers is essential for the safeguarding and protection of young people.
- All young people have a right to play the game of Badminton in an enjoyable and safe environment

Policy Scope

- Anyone under the age of 18 will be considered a child or young person for the purposes of this policy.
- This policy encompasses all activities, playing or otherwise, undertaken under the auspices of RG8BC.

BSBC will appoint a Child Welfare Officer to oversee the implementation and effectiveness of the club Child Welfare policy. The RG8BC Child Welfare Officer will be the first point of contact for concerns regarding the safety and welfare of young people within the club context.

Good Practice Principles

RG8BC will:

- Promote a culture in which all children are listened to and respected as individuals.
- Put the welfare of the young person first.
- Ensure that badminton is fun and that fair play is promoted.
- Challenge unacceptable behaviour.
- Report all concerns regarding unacceptable behaviour.
- Report all allegations or suspicions of abuse.
- Avoid one to one situations with young players unsupervised.
- Ensure that physical intervention is always avoided unless it is absolutely necessary to prevent a young person injuring themselves or others, or causing serious damage to property.
- Ensure that parents or carers are welcome to attend all RG8BC activities that involve children.

- Ensure that parents or carers understand their responsibilities to ensure the safety of children travelling to and from club activities, particularly after dark. In particular parents or carers should either
 - (a) deliver and collect their children at the start and end of each club session; and/or
 - (b) give written permission for their child to be collected by a named alternative carer; or
 - (b) give written permission for their child to attend and leave any club session while unaccompanied by parent, guardian or carer.

Prohibited Practices

- Spending time alone with young people away from others.
- Taking young people to your home where they will be alone with you.
- Inviting or allowing young people to stay with you at your home.
- Transporting young people in your car alone.
- Engaging in rough, physical or sexually provocative games with young people.
- Sharing a room with a young person.
- Allowing or engaging in any form of inappropriate physical touching or sexual contact or behaviour.
- Using or allowing young people to use inappropriate language unchallenged.
- Making sexually suggestive comments to a young person, even in fun.
- Allowing allegations made by a young person to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon.
- Doing things of a personal nature for young people that they can do for themselves, unless you have been requested to do so by the parent or carer. It is recognised that this does not preclude anyone attending to an injured or ill young person or rendering first aid.
- Departing from the Badminton club or agreed rendezvous point before the safe dispersal of all young people is complete.
- Causing an individual to lose self-esteem by embarrassing, humiliating or undermining them.
- Treating some young people more favourably than others.
- Agreeing to meet a young person on their own on a one to one basis.
- Sanctioning or failing to prevent a young person performing illegal acts when within the jurisdiction of the club.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Checks

RG8BC requires that any person in a regulated position or position of trust on a regular basis has to complete a DSB check. "Regular basis" is defined as when the activity is frequent (once a month or more) or 'intensive' (takes place on three or more days in a 30-day period).

Whistle Blowing

It is not the responsibility of any club member to decide whether or not child abuse is taking place, or to investigate it. All suspicions and allegations must be taken seriously and appropriately reported. All club members have responsibility to come forward and voice any concerns in respect of the behaviour of any adult towards a young person, or between a young person and a young person. The Child Welfare Officer acts as the first point of contact for anyone (staff, volunteer, parent, carer or children) who has a concern about a child and about poor practice/possible abuse by adults working with children. It is recognised that certain cases will have to proceed on a confidential basis.

If the Child Welfare Officer cannot be contacted or is the subject of the allegation, then the person that has the concerns about the young person's welfare must act themselves. If you become aware of a possible abuse situation then you should document your concerns and seek immediate advice from the local Social Services or Police who will advise on the action to be taken.

Photography and Personal Details

- Prior permission for photographs to be taken must be sought from the parent or carer.
- Images should not be sexual or exploitative in nature nor should they be open to misinterpretation or abuse.
- The image should be taken by an authorised photographer.
- When used on a website the image will not be accompanied by any information that will facilitate identification of an individual or individuals.
- The personal details of young people will never be published and will only be made available to authorised club officers, as approved by the RG8BC Child Welfare Officer, for the purposes of club administration.

Responsibility of Club Members

It is the individual responsibility of every club member to be aware of the content of this policy document and to be compliant with its requirements and obligations.