

BOWDON

BOWDON HOCKEY CLUB

GUIDANCE FOR ADULTS SAFEGUARDING AND PROTECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN HOCKEY

POSITION OF TRUST

At Bowdon we have Safeguarding Officer and Welfare Officers:

Jane Mackie: welfare@bowdonhockey.co.uk

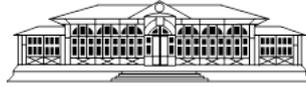
Mike Power: mike.powersportscoaching@live.co.uk.

Both Jane and Mike are responsible for dealing with concerns and working with England Hockey's Safeguarding team for those cases of a more serious nature. All concerns are treated in the strictest confidence, only involving those that are necessary to ensure that the issue can be dealt with appropriate. All issues are confidentially reported to the BHC Committee.

All Coaches, Team Managers or Captains at Bowdon Hockey club are in a position of trust invested by parents, the sport, and the young person. It is therefore essential that they adhere to the following guidelines – to protect them, as well as our young players.

DO:

- Always be publicly open when working with young people. Ensure that whenever possible there is more than one adult present during activities with young people, or at least that you are in sight or hearing of others. E.g., team talks in changing rooms.
- Manual support is rarely required in the sport of hockey. If an adult feels that it is necessary the reasons should be clearly explained to the young person, and if possible, the parents/carers, and their consent gained. Be aware that any physical contact with a young person may be misinterpreted.
 - Treat all young people with respect.
 - Provide an example of good conduct you wish others to follow.
 - Good Practice when Working with Young People
 - Respect a young person's right to personal privacy/encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable and caring enough to point out attitudes or behaviour that they do not like.
 - Remember that someone else might misinterpret your actions, no matter how well intentioned.
 - Be aware that some young people are additionally vulnerable, this could be due to several factors including disability, sexual orientation, their elite status, language, culture.
 - Challenge unacceptable behaviour and report all allegations/suspensions of abuse.



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DO NOT (EXCEPT IN AN EMERGENCY)

- Spend excessive amounts of time alone with young people away from others
- Take young people alone on car journeys, however short
- Take young people to your home where they will be alone with you.
- If cases arise where these situations are unavoidable, they should occur only with the full knowledge and consent of the young person's parents. Where someone has had to act outside England Hockey guidance in an emergency, this should be reported to your Welfare Officer.

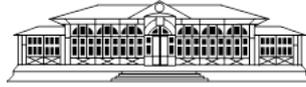
YOU SHOULD NEVER:

- Engage in rough, physical, or sexually provocative games
- Allow or engage in any inappropriate physical, verbal or e-contact with young people
- Allow young people to use inappropriate language unchallenged
- Make sexually suggestive comments to a young person, even in fun
- Allow allegations of a young person to go unchallenged, unrecorded, or not acted upon
- Do things of a personal nature for young people that they can do for themselves
- Invite or allow young people to stay with you at your home unsupervised
- Allow any form of bullying or bad behaviour by young people
- Allow yourself to be drawn into inappropriate attention-seeking behaviour or make suggestive or derogatory remarks or gestures in front of young people
- Jump to conclusions about others without checking facts
- Either exaggerate or trivialise child abuse issues
- Show favouritism to any individual
- Discuss any reported issue with those unconnected to the case, and where you are reporting or discussing an issue ensure that you are not being overheard by others.

COMMUNICATION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

When communicating with young people it is recommended that you:

- contact players only when necessary
- if players need to be contacted urgently i.e. a change in training arrangement, set up a 'grapevine' system including parents
- copy parents into written communication (i.e. emails)
- speak with a player and their parents if there is a need to communicate information in relation to playing, selection, training or competition



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- clearly state the club's policy on communication, including social media with young people and their parents / carers.

You must avoid:

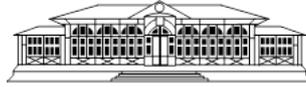
- contacting a young person unnecessarily
- contacting young people by phone, text or email without parental consent.
- Emailing young people directly as individuals (can be done as part of a disclosed list, once permission gained to do so).
- Using text/instant messaging/WhatsApp as a medium of contact with a young person individually
- Using a mobile phone during training or at competition. It is inappropriate to compromise the safety of a session.
- Emailing a young person without copying in parents, other players, or club members
- Allowing any young person to be part of your personal social networking sites

USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING

Bowdon Hockey Club and England Hockey recognises the use of social networking sites to allow people to engage, connect and disseminate information virally to a network of individuals. Whilst these technologies provide exciting opportunities, if they are misused, they can have negative consequences. It is therefore important for anyone who has a position of trust over young people within hockey to consider their use of social networking sites. The following is guidelines of what NOT TO DO when using social networking sites:

- Use a personal social network profile to engage with young people in hockey.
- Accept friend or follower requests on your personal account if:
 - You are in a position of trust in respect of that young person.
 - You hold a position of trust in the club.
 - Your contact with the young person is through the club and consent from the parent/guardian has not been given.
- Post information that you do not want everyone to see
- Use social networking to abuse or criticise another club or association member or in a way that does not align with any aspect of our Codes of Conduct.
- Use inappropriate language or humour, or link to any unsuitable content.
- Use photos of young people without gaining written consent from the player and parents/legal guardians.

We are conscious that U18 members are challenged by the need to manage their use of phones and social media to prevent unwanted attention and media exposure. One aspect of this is the potential for sending perceived 'sexting' images or messages. Creating or sending these could be seen as



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'producing and distributing child abuse images' with the risk of being prosecuted (even if the image is taken and shared with their permission).

You have a duty to act in a way that will not bring you or the young person into question. If you receive inappropriate messages or images from our young people report it immediately to our Safeguarding or Welfare Officer, do not engage in reciprocal messaging as this may be misinterpreted.

Bowdon Hockey Club adopts England Hockey's Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey Policy and works in accordance with the following statement:

Introduction:

Bowdon Hockey Club is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all young people involved in hockey. 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 Hockey Family has a role and responsibility to help ensure the safety and welfare of young people. The Hockey Family is defined below.

Bowdon Hockey Club as a provider of opportunities for young people in hockey 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:

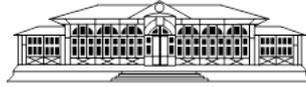
Hockey Family: all individuals, clubs, associations, and other organisations involved in any capacity in the game of hockey, and whether or not members of England Hockey. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes all players and anyone working within hockey (in a paid or voluntary capacity, and whether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

Young People: anyone under the age of 18.

Obligations under this policy:

Everyone within Bowdon Hockey Club must act in accordance with the general principles set out in this policy and the principles set out in the policies below, together with the supporting good practice document for:

- the recruitment of persons working with young people.
- the use of DBS checks in recruitment and employment
- anti-bullying



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- taking and use of photographic and recorded images of young people;

Affiliation to England Hockey will evidence agreement of these obligations by the Club and membership of will evidence agreement by the Hockey Family.

- Bowdon Hockey Club has in addition, adopted and implemented our own:
- Safeguarding and Protecting Young People (or Child Protection) policy which complies with the general principles set out in this policy; and
- Everyone within Bowdon Hockey Club must also:
- abide by England Hockey's Code of Ethics, which specifies conduct in relation to the safeguarding of young people within hockey, among other issues
- follow England Hockey 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 hockey 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 umpires under 18 years of age are incorporated into adult team hockey.

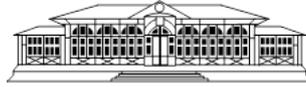
England Hockey's role:

As the national governing body, England Hockey will publicise and promote within hockey its Safeguarding Young People 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 Hockey is committed to ensuring that concerns relating to the safety and welfare of young people in hockey are taken seriously and acted upon swiftly and appropriately. To achieve this, England Hockey has developed procedures for reporting concerns.

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

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



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Bowdon Hockey Club will follow England Hockey'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.

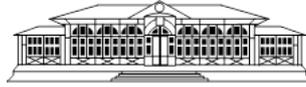
GENERAL SAFEGUARDING AND PROTECTING YOUNG PEOPLE PRINCIPLES:

- 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.
- Bowdon Hockey Club wishes to promote a telling culture. Everyone within hockey must therefore report all concerns in accordance with England Hockey's reporting procedures.
- It is the responsibility of child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is everyone in hockey's responsibility 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.
 - Bowdon Hockey Club is committed to encouraging, and everyone within hockey must recognise and regard as essential, the effective and safe recruitment of all individuals working with young people in hockey.
- All those working in hockey, in a paid or voluntary capacity, must abide by England Hockey's Code of Ethics.

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



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- “Working Together to Safeguard Children” 2006, HM Government
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

*Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) are the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations in each local area will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the locality. The core membership of LSCBs is set out in the Children Act 2004, and includes local authorities, health bodies, the police and others. The objective of LSCBs is to coordinate and to ensure the effectiveness of their member agencies in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. They also provide education and training opportunities at local level.