

Cricket Shropshire Safeguarding policy statement 2025



This is a “live” policy which will be regularly reviewed and updated as and when necessary.

Purpose

This policy explains how we will endeavour to create and provide a framework for the safeguarding of children and adults which is consistent with and complementary to the policies and procedures set out in ECB Safe Hands policy. In addition, we are committed to delivering the ECB safeguarding standards as set out in our county partnership agreement.

Cricket Shropshire is committed to safeguarding and protecting children and adults at risk to enjoy the game of cricket.

We will ensure that we promote safe and positive environments which make everyone feel included, safe, valued and respected.

We recognise our collective and individual safeguarding responsibilities and accountabilities.

Aims of this policy

- Stop abuse or neglect wherever possible.
- Prevent harm and reduce the risk of abuse or neglect to children.
- Safeguard children in a way that supports them by listening to them.
- Raise awareness so that cricket communities, alongside professionals, play their part in identifying and preventing abuse and neglect.
- Ensure appropriate policies, guidance, training, standards, and structures are in place to promote safe and welcoming environments.
- Create clear and accessible systems which support the prompt reporting of safeguarding concerns.
- Ensure safeguarding concerns are investigated proportionately and appropriately, in a timely manner in consultation with statutory agencies.

Principles

This policy is based on the following principles:

- Everyone has the right to be protected from all forms of abuse and poor practice, and to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment.

- Cricket Shropshire will seek to ensure our sport is inclusive and make reasonable adjustments for any protected characteristics, ability, disability, or impairment. Recognising additional vulnerability and taking this into consideration is central to creating inclusive and safe environments.
- There is a zero-tolerance approach to any forms of abuse.
- The rights, dignity and worth of all will always be respected.
- Safeguarding is everyone's business and responsibility.
- All allegations of abuse and neglect will be taken seriously and responded to quickly.

Scope

This Safeguarding Children Policy and associated procedures apply to all individuals involved in Cricket Shropshire including Board members, Staff, Casual Coaches, Volunteers, parents and carers, participants and spectators.

We expect our partner organisations, including for example, affiliated clubs, suppliers and sponsors to adopt and demonstrate their commitment to the principles and practice as set out in this Safeguarding Policy.

Listening to children

Listening to children is the foundation of a child centred approach. This means seeking feedback, listening to, and considering children's wishes and feelings both in individual decisions and in wider decisions about delivery. Cricket Shropshire promotes a listening culture in which the views of children and their parents/ carers are proactively sought and acted upon.

Safer recruitment

Cricket Shropshire is committed to ensuring that all relevant posts across its organisations are subject to robust safer recruitment processes.

Reporting and Responding to Safeguarding Concerns

It is our aim that everyone should feel confident to raise a concern, no matter how small. We believe that raising and dealing with concerns quickly, when they occur, supports a proactive safeguarding culture.

All suspicions, concerns and allegations will be taken seriously.

We will follow the 3R's with every concern: Responding appropriately, recording confidentiality and Reporting where necessary, ensuring that concerns are dealt with in a professional, fair and prompt manner

We are committed to:

- Implement preventative safeguarding measures which creates safe and enjoyable cricket settings.
- Ensure safeguarding concerns regarding children and adults at risk are managed appropriately and thoroughly in conjunction with the ECB, Statutory agencies and other organisations as appropriate.
- Recognise that all participating in cricket (regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability) have a right to have fun and be protected from harm in a safe environment.
- Build a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children and adults at risk treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.
- Ensure our County Safeguarding Officer is appropriately qualified and attends all current and future training modules required by the ECB, so that they have the necessary skills to be able to undertake their role effectively.
- Adopt and implement the ECB “Safe Hands Cricket’s Policy for Safeguarding Children”
- Ensure that all people who work in cricket at, or for, Cricket Shropshire (such as staff, officials, volunteers, team managers, and coaches) are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities.

Reporting a concern

Cricket Shropshire County Safeguarding officer is the first point of contact for all safeguarding concerns.

All concerns, no matter how small should be reported to Cricket Shropshire Safeguarding officer, who will be able to offer advice and support and take the necessary safeguarding steps.

Vanessa Russell Safeguarding Officer: -

Vanessa.russell@cricketshropshire.co.uk

Mob 07523 697816

Concerns can also be raised directly with the cricket regulator: -

Ellie White

County Safeguarding Advisor

Cricket Regulator

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Web: www.cricketregulator.co.uk

Registered in England and Wales

Company Registration Number: **7756164**

Registered Charity Number: **1148878**

The names of the directors are available from the registered office