

Sport RCT Example [CLUB NAME] Safeguarding Policy 2025/26

I. Introduction

[Insert Full Club Name] understands that it has a duty of care as well as a legal and moral responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child who has been entrusted to our care. We are committed to working to provide a safe environment and an enjoyable experience for all our members. We acknowledge that all children have a right to protection, and we must consider the needs of those who may be particularly vulnerable. A child is defined as a person under the age of 18.

2. Aims and Principles

The aim of this policy is to:

- Ensure a child's welfare is, and must always be the paramount consideration.
- Club promotes a fun, safe and inclusive environment. All children (regardless of their age, ethnic origin, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability) have a right to be protected from abuse.
- Ensure all members and volunteers are aware of the club's safeguarding/welfare policies and procedures.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse or bad practice should be taken seriously and responded to promptly and appropriately.
- It is everyone's responsibility to always protect the children's welfare. It is the responsibility of the child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns.

3. Club Policy, Procedures & Practices

[Insert Full Club Name] understands it has an important role to play in safeguarding the welfare of children by protecting them from all forms of abuse, including physical, sexual or emotional harm, and neglect or bullying. In this role we will provide children and young people with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of the club and follow the necessary policies, procedures and practices as instructed by [insert relevant governing body/leagues/other requirements specific to your sport and area].

We have an appointed Club Safeguarding Officer to assist with our responsibilities.

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4. Recruitment and Training

We are committed to ensuring that all individuals recruited and appointed are appropriately vetted and trained for the position within the club.

- We shall make all coaches, officials and volunteers aware of the potential for the development of a relationship of trust between themselves and young and vulnerable people, and the consequences inherent in the accidental or intentional abuse of that relationship.
- We will use a suitable application process including the use of a role description, interview and references prior to appointing.
- Apply for an Enhanced DBS check (Disclosure and Barring Service) for all coaches, volunteers and staff working with children and/or vulnerable adults through your NGB. If there are concerns with an individual or DBS check then seek advice with our NGB.
- First Aid and Safeguarding training is provided for all required people working with children. This training will allow volunteers to make informed responses to any child protection issues as well as be aware of, and adhere to any policies and procedures.
- Members must adhere to the club's code of conduct and given voting rights at AGM and/or other club meetings when required.
- All junior and adult playing members will be signed up and registered to the [insert NGB and/or league details] to ensure both the club and individual is covered through required insurance and policies. Please note the [insert NGB and/or league details] will have access to club and individuals' details during this registration process.

5. Role of the Welfare/Safeguarding Officer

The Club Welfare/Safeguarding Officer plays a vital role in safeguarding our members. The responsibilities include:

- Responsible for identifying, managing, and reporting any safeguarding concerns, ensuring the well-being of all club members.
- Acting as the first point of contact for any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of Club members.
- Ensuring that all Club members are aware of safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Providing advice and guidance to members, volunteers, and coaches on safeguarding issues.
- Ensuring that any allegations or concerns are dealt with appropriately, confidentially, and in line with legal and ethical guidelines.
- Providing support and guidance for those affected by safeguarding concerns, including signposting to external agencies where necessary.
- Ensuring that appropriate DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks are carried out for coaches and volunteers and keeping records up to date.

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6. Reporting Concerns

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about a child, you must report your concerns; this should be to our Club Welfare/Safeguarding Officer.

If the concern is of a more serious nature, such as possible abuse, where possible, inform the Club Welfare/Safeguarding Officer, and proceed to contact Social Services or the Police immediately. The child's welfare is paramount, ensure they are safe and if medical treatment is required, take them to hospital or call an ambulance and advise the doctor this is a child protection concern.

If you are unable to contact our Club Welfare/Safeguarding Officer or in a situation where the matter is clearly serious, contact either the NGB Safeguarding Team, Police or Social Services, or NSPCC (24-Hour Helpline: 0808 800 5000).

7. Code of Conduct

We have adopted our NGB commitment to promote good practice and behaviour. There is separate code of conducts available for players, parents and volunteers which are part of [insert relevant NGB] guidance. Breaches of this can be dealt with through club committee or further through [insert NGB] if required.

All members of the Club are expected to uphold the following code of conduct:

- Treat all members with respect, fairness, and dignity.
- Do not engage in any form of bullying, harassment, or discriminatory behaviour.
- Be mindful of physical contact, ensuring it is appropriate and non-invasive.
- Encourage good sportsmanship and teamwork both on and off the field.
- Report any concerns regarding the safety or wellbeing of any individual to the Welfare Officer without delay.

8. Anti Bullying, Anti-Discrimination and Equality

- Bullying of any kind is not accepted at our club and we will work together to ensure all forms of bullying is addressed. If bullying does occur, players and/or parents/guardians should be able to share their concerns and be assured that bullying will be dealt with seriously and swiftly.
- Club is committed to promoting inclusion and diversity within Korfball. Discrimination based on age, race, religion, disability, gender, or sexual orientation will not be tolerated. Any form of discrimination, harassment, or inappropriate behaviour should be reported immediately to the Welfare Officer.

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9. Confidentiality

All safeguarding information will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. Information will only be shared with those who have a direct need to know, including relevant external agencies. Information will be recorded securely and in accordance with data protection laws.

10. Reviewing the Policy

This safeguarding policy will be reviewed annually by the club's committee to ensure that it remains up to date with current legislation and best practices. Any changes will be communicated to all members and volunteers of the Club.

Date:

Date:

[Name of Club] herby adopts and accepts this policy.

This policy was adopted at the meeting held on: [Insert date]

<u>Signatures</u>

Chairperson: _

Safeguarding/Welfare officer:_

Club Welfare/Safeguarding Officer [insert name and contact details]

Further Information and Useful Contacts

For further information regarding the [insert NGB] Safeguarding Policy or other safeguarding guidance, please contact or visit the following:

National Governing Body Safeguarding Contact [insert link, name and contact details]

The NSPCC 24–Hour Helpline: 0808 800 5000 <u>What is safeguarding in sport? | NSPCC Learning</u>