

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Longton Rugby Club

It is the policy of Longton Rugby Club to abide by the Safeguarding Policy as laid down by the RFU/RFUW

RFU Safeguarding Policy Statement

Young people are the future of Rugby Union. Every young player who participates in Rugby Union must be able to do so in a safe and enjoyable environment. The RFU places the highest priority on their SAFETY and ENJOYMENT and recognises that it has a Duty of Care towards young people within the sport and that any Club or Constituent Body providing rugby opportunities must do so with the highest possible care.

Longton Rugby Club, its Officers, Coaches and Volunteers, recognise the personal dignity and rights of children, towards whom we have a special responsibility and a duty of care. As a Club and as individuals, we undertake to do all in our power to provide children and young people with safety and protection from harm while they are in our care. If we have reason to suspect that abuse has been perpetrated, we undertake to report our concerns to the appropriate authority.

All adults who come into regular contact with young people in carrying out club duties will be expected to complete a **Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Disclosure Form** when requested by the Safeguarding Officer (SO). In addition, they will be provided with a copy of the RFU's **Code of Conduct for Club Officials and Volunteers**.

Coaches and Team Managers will in addition be provided with copies of the RFU's **Fair Play Codes** and **Safeguarding Guidance Leaflets**.

Parents and Guardians will be provided with the Club's **Code of Conduct for Parents/Guardians**.

Where a **breach of these codes** is identified, it will be reported immediately to the Club's SO for immediate action. Where concerns are in relation to a specific named child or young person, the Club's SO will start to make enquiries and take the necessary action. All information, actions taken and reasons for actions taken will be recorded in written form and will be made immediately available to any subsequent investigating body.

If the concerns are in relation to the SO or any other Club Official, the information will immediately be passed to the appropriate and nominated National Governing Body official.

Where the concerns are for a named adult who is believed or suspected of endangering the physical or mental health or safety of any child or young persons, then the SO will ensure that all information and actions taken and reasons for actions taken will be recorded in written form and will be made immediately available to any subsequent investigating body. The SO will at the earliest opportunity report the matter to Social

Services for their consideration and directions.

All information provided from any source to the Club, for the purpose of complying with this Safeguarding Policy will be kept confidential and will only be disclosed to a person who has a need to know and who needs information to ensure the health and safety of the young person.

Web Site

The Club abides by the Law and regulations for the protection of young people on this web site. All parents give consent by signing the junior Membership Form to allow publication of their child's images on this web site. The SO must be informed in writing if any child is not to be photographed. Any images used on player pages will be of low resolution only.

The appointed SO will be responsible for the implementation of this Policy. It will be the SO's duty to ensure that this Policy is reviewed at the end of each rugby season and to recommend and implement any necessary changes.

The SO will be responsible for ensuring action as outlined in this Policy is undertaken as and when necessary.

Associated Documents:

RFU's Policy & Procedures for the Welfare of Young People in Rugby Union

RFU's - The Welfare of Young People in Rugby Union- Guidance

Code of Conduct for Club Officials & Volunteers

Code of Conduct for Parents/Guardians

Junior Membership Form

Equity Policy

Anti Bullying Policy

Lrc/cpp2/30th Nov. 2008