



PORTSMOUTH AND DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION

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Safeguarding Child Protection Policy Statement

P&D Safeguarding Child Protection Policy Statement

Revision Information

Approval Date	Amendments
09/04/2015	Policy Approved at P&D SGM
11/02/2016	1st review of Document ratified by the P&D Executive members with following amendments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Following National review the term "Child Protection Officer" has been replaced by "Welfare Officer"
09/01/2018	Amendment to state it will be the BE Safeguarding Officer who will inform the P&D Officers of any allegations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approved at the P&D 2018 AGM
Jan 2021	Next review due.

P&D Safeguarding Child Protection Policy Statement

Contents

1	Objectives	4
2	Policy Statement	4
3	Policy Aims	4
4	Principles.....	4
5	Responsibilities, Communication, Monitoring and Review	5

P&D Safeguarding Child Protection Policy Statement

1 Objectives

The Portsmouth and District Bowling Association (P&D) has considered its responsibilities to the young people participating in bowls games under its jurisdiction very carefully and has produced this Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Statement that sets out the standards we wish to uphold in providing activities for young people and safeguarding them accordingly.

The P&D is an Associate Member of Bowls England (BE), which is the National Governing Body (NGB) for the sport of Flat Green Lawn Bowls in England. As such, we adhere to its Safeguarding Bowls Policy, which can be found on the web here - <http://www.safeguardingbowls.org/>.

NOTE: As well as the Safeguarding Policy, that site also contains many useful supporting documents.

2 Policy Statement

The P&D acknowledges it has a duty of care to safeguard the welfare of all young people (defined as those under 18) who are involved in bowls played under its jurisdiction. All young people have a right to protection and have their particular needs taken into account.

Thus, the P&D will endeavour to ensure the safety and protection of all young people involved with the Association through the Safeguarding and Child Protection Guidelines adopted by the P&D's Executive.

3 Policy Aims

The aims of our policy are:

- To provide young people with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of the P&D and also help them to enjoy their experience of the sport.
- To reassure parents/guardians that their children will receive the best practicable care possible whilst participating in P&D activities.
- To provide support to Clubs, members and volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues and to fulfil their role effectively.

4 Principles

Our principles are as follows:

- The welfare of young people is paramount.
- All young people whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, ethnic origin or religious beliefs have the right to protection from abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- All members have a responsibility to report concerns to the P&D's Welfare Officer (WO).
- Clubs, members and coaches will be supported to understand their role and responsibility with regard to the duty of care and protection of young people.

P&D Safeguarding Child Protection Policy Statement

- Individuals will, as necessary, receive support through education and training to be aware of, as well as understand, the best practices and how to manage any welfare or child protection issues that may come to light.
- The P&D will work in partnership with young people and parents/guardians to review and implement our Child Protection and Safeguarding procedures.
- Our policies and procedures are based on the above principles, as well as UK and International legislation and government guidance, including:
 - The Children Act 1989 and 2004.
 - Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013.
 - The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Any subsequent legislation relating to child protection would implicitly be incorporated into this document.

5 Responsibilities, Communication, Monitoring and Review

- Our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Statement and Procedures are available to all members and parents/guardians via our website <http://www.pdba.co.uk/>
- It will be reviewed by the P&D Executive one year after being introduced and then every three years or in response to significant legislation and amended as appropriate.
- Guidance from Bowls England will be sought as part of the review.
- The P&D Executive has responsibility for ensuring that the policy and procedures are implemented, including referring any appropriate disciplinary action to the NGB, as appropriate.
- The P&D's WO has responsibility for responding to any allegations, concerns or child protection incidents arising as a result of individuals participating in P&D events. Where appropriate, he will also pass on information to the BE Safeguarding Officer who will inform P&D officers where appropriate.
- Parents/guardians have a responsibility to work with the P&D in implementing these procedures and providing their children with the necessary information to keep themselves safe.
- It will be the responsibility of the relevant P&D Officer (e.g. Competition Secretary, Match Secretary) to inform the Host Club if an Under 18 is either in a P&D Team or taking part in a P&D Competition, so that they can make suitable preparations.
- Our policy will be monitored in partnership with BE and Bowls Development Alliance procedures.

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