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Redditch Hockey Club - Safeguarding & Welfare

Redditch Hockey Club believes that everyone involved with our club have the right to be safe and enjoy their involvement in hockey. We are committed to promoting the welfare of all young people in our sport and to protect them from harm alongside the hockey family by providing a safe and positive experience. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility within the club and does not sit solely with the Welfare Officer, we should all work together to ensure the safety and welfare of all our players, and most importantly our younger players (defined as anyone under the age of 18). We will adopt England Hockey's (EH) Safeguarding Policy, Reporting Procedures, Good Practice Guidance and General Safeguarding Principles, implement this in our club environment and expect everyone within Redditch Hockey Club to act in accordance with these at all times.

We will do this by:

Meeting England Hockey's General Safeguarding Principles:

- The safety and welfare of young people is paramount.
- The rights, dignity and worth of all young people must always be respected.
- The views and opinions of young people are sought, considered and integrated into all aspects of hockey.
- All young people, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race (including ethnic origin, nationality and colour), religion or belief, sex (gender), sexual orientation, marital and civil partnership and pregnancy and maternity have the right to be protected from harm.
- It is recognised that some young people have additional vulnerability, it is important to raise awareness of additional risks and address particular needs, as required.
- The creation of a safe culture and environment which allows young people to thrive within hockey and feel supported should they need to raise any concerns.
- It is everyone's responsibility to 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.

Meeting England Hockey's Safeguarding 'Call to Action' (minimum safeguarding standards):

- Adopting England Hockey's Safeguarding Policy and associated guidance.
- Having at least one named Welfare Officer, whose contact details are easily accessible to all members and who has attended a 'Time to Listen' safeguarding workshop.
- Following England Hockey's recruitment guidance by ensuring that our club/association is registered on England Hockey's Disclosure Barring System (DBS),





have at least one active verifier, actively use the system to complete DBS checks on all appropriate individuals.

- Ensuring that all coaches/ individuals who work regularly with young people have appropriate safeguarding training and that it's renewed every three years.
- Understanding and following England Hockey's reporting procedures and disseminating this information to our members.
- Providing an environment that is positive, safe, engaging and inclusive for everyone. The welfare and wellbeing of young people is paramount.

Our Role and Responsibility:

- Create an environment where all young people have fun and feel safe. Make sure all our members understand the role they play in this.
- Make our Welfare Officer(s) contact details available to all (and England Hockey)
- Make our members aware of their responsibility to safeguard young people
- Listen, take advice, act on concerns

