

Egham Bowls Club - Safeguarding Policy

Egham Bowls Club has considered its responsibilities to the young and vulnerable people participating in bowls at our premises and within our club and has produced the following Safeguarding Policy and underpinning procedures in order to set out the standards we wish to uphold in providing activities whilst safeguarding the welfare of all those who participate.

Egham Bowls Club affiliates to relevant National Governing Bodies and the Club recognises the policies set out in their "Safeguarding Bowls Guidelines".

1. Policy Statement

Egham Bowls Club acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard the welfare of all young and vulnerable people and will therefore endeavour to ensure their safety and protection

It is the responsibility of all adults within the club to assist the Management Committee in this endeavour.

2. Policy Aims

- To provide young people with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of the club and also help them to enjoy their experience of the sport of bowls.
- To reassure parents that their children will receive the best practicable care possible whilst participating in activities within the club.
- To provide support to club members and volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues and to fulfil their role effectively.
- To be alert to the abuse of vulnerable adults within the Egham Bowls Club community

3. Principles

- The welfare of young people is paramount.
- Everyone, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, ethnic origin and 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 staff and volunteers working in bowls have a responsibility to report concerns to the Club Welfare Officer.

- Adults – club members, volunteers, coaches and members will be supported to understand their role and responsibility with regard to the duty of care in the protection of young and vulnerable people.
- Individuals will receive support through education and training, coordinated by the club/national governing body to be aware of and understand best practice and how to manage any welfare or child protection issues that may come to light.
- Egham Bowls Club will continue to review/update their child protection and safeguarding procedures in line with National Governing Body and Government guidance.
- Egham Bowls Club's policy and procedures are based on the above principles and UK and international legislation and government guidance and take the following into consideration:
 - The Children Act 1989 and 2004.
 - Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015.
 - The Care Act 2014
 - Any subsequent legislation relating to safeguarding and child protection would implicitly be incorporated into this document.

4. Responsibilities and Communication

- The Egham Bowls Club Safeguarding Policy will be available to all members, parents, staff, volunteers and participants.
- The Policy will be reviewed every three years by the Management Committee, and amended as appropriate.
- The Management Committee has responsibility for ensuring that the policy and procedures are implemented, including referring any appropriate disciplinary action to the National Governing Body as appropriate.
- The Club Welfare Officer has responsibility for responding to any allegations, concerns or child protection incidents, passing information to the Local Authority or NGB Safeguarding Officer as appropriate. Information will be shared with the Management Committee where relevant and if a need to change club policies and procedures is identified.
- Parents have a responsibility to work together with the club in implementing procedures and providing their children with the necessary information to keep themselves safe.

5. Monitoring and review

- This policy will be reviewed one year after being introduced and then every three years or in response to significant new legislation.