

MEOPHAM CRICKET CLUB

CHILD PROTECTION & WELFARE

Introduction

Meopham Cricket Club is committed to ensuring that all young people (aged under 18) who play cricket for the club have a safe and positive experience. In so doing Meopham Cricket Club is aiming to fully implement the ECB 'Safe hands' policy document whilst adhering to all other ECB recommendations.

Meopham Cricket Club is committed to developing and implementing policies and procedures to ensure that everyone knows and accepts their responsibility in relation to a duty of care when involved with the sporting development of young people. This should include correct and comprehensive reporting procedures, good practice and sound recruitment procedures for all those individuals working within the club.

It is not the responsibility of the individuals within a Cricket club to determine if abuse has taken place, but it is their responsibility to confidentially report concerns to the relevant Child Protection experts.

Underpinning Principles:

- ❖ All young people within Meopham Cricket Club, regardless of age, gender, race religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability have the right to be protected.
- ❖ All young people participating in cricket have a right to do so in a safe environment. Meopham Cricket Club will ensure that this environment is provided, ensuring safeguards for all those engaged in the clubs activities.
- ❖ Adult volunteers working on behalf of Meopham Cricket Club will aim to ensure a safe , positive and fun cricketing experience for all young people.
- ❖ Adult volunteers, coaches, umpires and scorers will understand and be supportive in their role with regard to duty of care for young people.
- ❖ Individuals, notably District and Club Welfare officers, will receive support through education and training provided by ECB,NSPCC, and the Kent Cricket Board Welfare Officer, in order to be enabled to adopt and implement, the ECB Welfare of Young people policy in the 'Safe Hands' publication.
- ❖ All well-founded suspicions and allegations will be taken seriously, managed and dealt with swiftly, appropriately and **confidentially**.
- ❖ Meopham Cricket Club recognises its responsibility to the Kent Cricket Board, the ECB and also recognises the responsibility of the relevant statutory agencies.
- ❖ It is the responsibility of the Child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is the responsibility of all those working within cricket to report any concerns.
- ❖ Confidentiality is crucial. Not all concerns or allegations are well-founded and the protection of the person concerned and the child involved has to be fully considered whilst these concerns or allegations are investigated.

Duty of Care:

The duty of Meopham Cricket Club and individuals engaged with its activities is to ensure the safety and welfare of any young person involved with the club or its related activities, to safeguard them and protect them from reasonably foreseeable forms of harm or physical, emotional or sexual abuse.

Meopham Cricket Club agrees to undertake the following action points to ensure compliance with Child Protection & Welfare initiatives:

- ❖ Appoint a Club Child Protection and Welfare Officer (CWO).
- ❖ Ensure that the (CWO) is known to all at the club and that the individual is elected a member of the club committee.
- ❖ Enable the designated person to attend 'Good practice' and 'Time to Listen' training courses arranged by the ECB and NSPCC through the Kent Board.
- ❖ Produce a Child Protection Policy for the club.
- ❖ Ensure that Child Protection and Welfare is referred to in the club constitution.
- ❖ Ensure all relevant adults (coaches/team managers/umpires and other persons in regular contact with U18's) are CRB checked through the ECB Child Protection Manager (Rebecca Ledingham)
- ❖ Ensure all other members likely to have occasional contact with young people in the club to complete Self-Declaration forms.
- ❖ Ensure a list of contacts at the Kent Cricket Board, ECB and local agencies is available within the club/pavilion.
- ❖ Ensure parents have access to, and are aware of, the club's Child Protection policy /guidelines and its Welfare Officer.
- ❖ That all well-founded suspicions and allegations are taken seriously managed and dealt with swiftly, appropriately and **Confidentially**.

Meopham Cricket Club Committee.