



Registered Charity 1165948

Berkshire Cricket

Safeguarding Adults Policy

Policy updated: January 2025

Next Review Date: January 2026

Version: 1.0

DEFINITIONS

In this Policy the following terms/expressions shall mean:

- ECB – means England and Wales Cricket Board
- Children – refers to persons under the age of 18
- Safe Hands - means the ECB's cricket policies and procedures for safeguarding children within cricket.

INTRODUCTION

We all have a responsibility to safeguard adults who are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse and neglect. This policy outlines what adult safeguarding is and what to do if you have a concern. The safeguarding children and young people policy, for those under the age of 18, is covered in the separate 'Berkshire Cricket Safeguarding Policy'.

AIMS

The aims of our Safeguarding Adults Policy are to:

- Stop abuse or neglect wherever possible.
- Prevent harm and reduce the risk of abuse or neglect to adults with care and support needs.
- Safeguard adults in a way that supports them in making choices and having control about how they want to live.
- Promote an approach that concentrates on improving life for the adults concerned.
- Raise awareness so that cricket communities, alongside professionals, play their part in identifying and preventing abuse and neglect.

POLICY STATEMENT

The policy is based on the following principles:

- All adults, regardless of age, ability or disability, gender, race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital or gender status, and pregnancy and maternity have the right to be protected from abuse and poor practice, and to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment.
- Berkshire Cricket will seek to ensure our sport is inclusive and make reasonable adjustments for any protected characteristics, ability, disability, or impairment. We will also commit to continuous development, monitoring, and review.
- There is a zero tolerance approach to the abuse of adults.
- The rights, dignity and worth of all adults will always be respected.
- We recognise that ability and disability can change over time, such that some adults may be additionally vulnerable to abuse, in particular those adults with care and support needs.
- Safeguarding adults is everyone's business and responsibility.
- All allegations of abuse and neglect will be taken seriously and responded to quickly in line with Berkshire Cricket and Cricket Regulator Safeguarding Procedures.
- Berkshire Cricket recognises the role and responsibilities of the statutory agencies in safeguarding adults and is committed to complying with the procedures of Local and Regional Safeguarding Adults Boards.

Berkshire Cricket accepts we are required to fulfil our duty of care, which means we must do everything that can be reasonably expected of us to help safeguard and protect people from harm, and to act when we suspect that someone is being harmed or is at risk of harm.

We aim to create a listening culture where people feel able to share concerns without fear of retribution and will be consistent with the principles of adult safeguarding; ensuring that any action taken is prompt, proportionate and is person led and outcome focused.

WHAT IS ADULT SAFEGUARDING?

Legislation in England and Wales defines an 'Adult at Risk' as any person aged 18 years or over who has care and support needs, who is experiencing (or at risk of) abuse or neglect, and as a result is unable to protect themselves from abuse, neglect, or the risk of it.

It is an important part of what many public services do, and a key responsibility of Local Authorities under the Care Act 2014.

Legislation in both areas commits to putting the adult at the centre of decision making, empowering adults to make decisions for themselves with support from others where appropriate.

People can have a need for care and support for a variety of reasons – for example they may have a learning disability, a physical disability, a chronic health condition or have a mental health issue. Such conditions may bring with them additional vulnerabilities, however having care and support needs does not mean that people are automatically adults at risk and need safeguarding.

Safeguarding adults is underpinned by:

- The Care Act 2014
- Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005

Types of abuse suffered by adults identified in the Care Act 2014 are:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological/Emotional/Mental
- Financial and material
- Neglect and act of omission

- Discriminatory
- Organisational
- Modern Day Slavery
- Domestic Violence
- Self-Neglect – including hoarding

Other types of harm that adults may experience include:

- Cyber Bullying
- Forced Marriage
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Hate Crime
- Radicalisation

SAFE RECRUITMENT AND SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

We want to make sure that all our volunteers and staff have the right skills and qualities to create a safe environment. All staff and volunteers will be subject to safer recruitment procedures and will also be updated with any relevant legislation, policies and procedural changes. Appropriate training will also be identified and offered, including safeguarding adults training.

COMMUNICATION

Berkshire Cricket will make available its Safeguarding Adults Policy to all staff, volunteers, members and partner organisations.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT AN ADULT

Organisation members, staff and volunteers are not expected to be an expert in recognition of a safeguarding concern; however, all adults working, volunteering and participating have a duty of care to be vigilant and respond appropriately to suspicions of poor practice, abuse or bullying. They should also respond to any indication of abuse that may be occurring outside of the organisation setting.

This does not mean that it is your responsibility to decide if a situation is poor practice, abuse or bullying, but it is your responsibility to report your concerns to the County Safeguarding Manager (safeguarding@berkshirecricketfoundation.org) or in their absence the Cricket Regulator Safeguarding Team (safeguarding@cricketregulator.co.uk) who can also help if you feel your concerns are not being dealt with properly.

More information on how to share a concern and the referral form are available on the ECB website: [ECB How to Share a Concern](#)

The ECB Safeguarding Adults Policy is available at: [ECB Safeguarding Adults Policy](#)