

Maldon Cricket Club

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

1. Introduction

This policy document is based on the guidelines set down in the ECB Document “SAFE HANDS” Welfare of Young People Cricket Policy.

All Young People at Maldon Cricket Club (MCC) regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability have the right;

1. To be protected
2. Enjoy their cricket in a safe environment

Adults working with MCC with Young People will;

1. Adhere to the standards set out in this document
2. Provide a safe and positive and fun cricketing experience for Young People
3. Will be educated in the best practice when working with young people
4. Will be familiar with this document and have access to the ECB Welfare of Young People Cricket Policy via MCC's Club Safeguarding Officer.

The Management Committee for MCC;

1. Fully endorse the contents of this document.
2. Ensure any allegations or suspicions relating to Young People will be dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

2. Good Practice

- Ensure that cricket is fun, enjoyable and fair play is promoted
- Treat all young people equally with respect and dignity
- The welfare of the Young Person comes before winning
- Do not use bad language, smoke or drink while in charge of young people
- Work in an open environment both physically and emotionally eg encourage participation
- Give enthusiastic and constructive feedback
- Ensure proper records are kept and are at hand if required (including accident and injury)
- Ensure physical contact should be appropriate and with the Young Persons permission
- Always follow-up allegations made by a young person in accordance with the guidelines in the ECB Welfare of Young People Cricket Policy
- Keep your technical skills, qualifications and insurances up to date.
- Always inform a parent if
 - You accidentally hurt a young person
 - A young person seems distressed in some manner
 - A young person becomes sexually aroused by your actions
 - A young person misunderstands or misinterprets something you have done

3. Poor Practice

Never spend time alone with young people away from others

Take Young People to your home where they will be alone with you

Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games

Never share a room with a young person (tours etc)

Never make sexually suggestive remarks to a young person.

Never allow inappropriate language to be used unchallenged

Never do things of a personal nature for a young person that they should do themselves

Transport Young People in your car alone

Transport Young People if you are not insured, your car has not a valid MOT or you are disqualified from driving (see Exclusion section)

4. MCC Welfare Incident form

These forms are available on the Club Welfare information board at Drapers Farm and can also be obtained via the Club Safeguarding Officer. These must be completed if any of the best practice guidelines above are breached or if concerns are expressed, disclosed or witnessed and sent to the Club Safeguarding Officer immediately.

5. Photography or use of video

Parents' permission should be sought before young people's pictures are put on the website. Video analysis plays a big part in the coaching of a young cricketer however parents' permission should be sought before doing taking video footage of their children and the footage should not be stored. Full guidelines on the use of photography are included in the ECB guidelines.

6. Changing facilities

Children changing rooms under the age of 10 should be supervised at all times by staff of the same gender of the players.

Adults should not shower with children under 18 (see exclusions)

If young people do not wish to shower in public they should be put under no pressure to do so. Encourage them to do so at home

7. Guidance for parents

Parents should be made aware that;

MCC encourage coaching staff to be appropriately qualified and aware of all child protection issues

MCC encourage parents to get involved with the club.

If a parent is late to collect their son/daughter the club will

- Attempt to make contact with the parent/carer
- Wait with the young person (preferably accompanied by other adults)
- Not send a child home with another person without prior permission
- Remind parents/carers re late collection
- At a last resort inform social services or the police

8. Use of alcohol or illegal substances

Young people will not be allowed to drink alcohol, smoke or take illegal substances while at MCC.

Adults should not drink alcohol, smoke or take illegal substances while in charge of young persons.

9. Indicators of abuse

Through training MCC coaches will be able to recognise situations where children may have been abused, and guidelines exist to help them assist the young person in an appropriate manner and are set out in full in the ECB policy document.

10. Bullying and harassment

Similarly to the case with abuse MCC staff will be able to recognise situations where this is occurring and is obviously at odds with our policy of providing an environment where young people can enjoy their cricket. The Club Welfare Officer will be informed and necessary steps will be taken to ensure that the matter is dealt with swiftly and efficiently.

11. Recruitment

MCC uses the ECB's enhanced disclosure and barring system (DBS) to check the suitability of volunteers and coaches. Volunteers and coaches receive safeguarding training in line with this policy every three years.

12. Visibility

MCC will ensure that all members and parents within the club are aware of this document and the obligations that go with it.

13. Exclusions

The following section details areas within the ECB guidelines that RCC do not have the administrative resource to support.

1. Registering drivers: ECB recommends that all drivers who give transport young children on behalf of the club complete a form proving details pertaining to the vehicle or the driver. EG MOT and Insurance etc. While we support this in principal MCC cannot take on this role.
2. Umpires and Scorers: ECB recommends that as these have access to young people that MCC should check their credentials. While MCC appreciate the principals behind this stance it would be difficult to enforce but would ask our coaches to be vigilant that these people adhere to our guidelines e.g. being left alone with children
3. There is a form as part of the ECB guidelines that parents should fill out consenting to their children's images being on the website and or video. MCC may fulfil this obligation through a blanket communication as opposed to individual forms.

Adopted - March 2022

Review Date – March 2023