



Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy

Whilst children and young people are participating in golf activities in our care, Wrekin Golf Club has a responsibility to ensure their safety and wellbeing.

The Wrekin Golf Club recognises the policies of the National Governing bodies, as set out in the as set out on the children in golf website. The policy and supporting procedures set out a framework to fulfil our commitment to good practice and the protection of children in our care.

Principles

- A child is defined by law as a person under the age of 18 years
- The welfare of children is paramount
- All children, regardless of their Age, Race, Religion or Belief, Disability, Sex or Sexual Orientation, have the right to protection from abuse
- All concerns and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- All children have the right to be safe
- All children have the right to be treated with dignity and respect
- The Wrekin Golf Club will work with children, their parents and external organisations to safeguard the welfare of children participating in golf
- We recognise the authority of the statutory agencies and are committed to complying with Local Safeguarding Children Board Guidelines (LSCB) and any documentation which supersedes these.

Objectives

The Wrekin Golf Club aim to:

- Provide a safe environment for children participating in golfing activities within the club and try to ensure that they enjoy the experience.
- Reassure parents (and carers) that their children will receive the best care possible whilst participating in club activities & communicate policy & procedure to them through website/letter/consents.
- Support adults (staff, volunteers, PGA Professionals, coaches, members and visitors to the club) to understand their roles and responsibilities with regard to the Duty of Care and protection of children.
- Provide appropriate level training and support to staff, volunteers & coaches to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues and to fulfill their role effectively
- Adopt the Children in Golf Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures and any related policies where appropriate.



Responsibilities and implementation

The Wrekin Golf Club and partner organisations will seek to promote the principles of safeguarding children by:

- Reviewing their policy and procedures every three years or whenever there is a major change in legislation. Guidance from England Golf & Safeguarding Children in Golf will be sought as part of the review process.
- Conducting a risk assessment of club activities with regard to safeguarding and take appropriate action to address the identified issues within suitable timescales.
- Using appropriate recruitment procedures to assess the suitability of volunteers and staff working with children, in line with guidance from Safeguarding Children in Golf.
- Following National Governing Body (NGB) procedures to report concerns and allegations about the welfare of children or the behaviour of adults and ensure that all staff, volunteers, parents and children are aware of these procedures.
- Directing club staff, volunteers & coaches to appropriate safeguarding training, where this is appropriate to their role.

1. Recruitment and training

The Wrekin Golf Club will endeavour to ensure that all volunteers and staff working with children are suitable to do so, and that they have all the information they require to perform their job effectively and appropriately.

Each role which involves an element of responsibility with regard to children, particularly those involving the regular supervision of children, whether voluntary or paid, will be assessed to establish which qualifications, checks and other requirements are necessary. These will include the following:

- An application form (Appendix 1)
- A self-disclosure form (Appendix 2)
- References from 2 people if possible (Appendix 3)
- A signed Code of Conduct (Appendix 4)
- A Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check on people involved in 'regulated activity' with children. (Appendix 10). England Golf/ The PGA will conduct the risk assessment of the individual's suitability to work in the relevant role where DBS checks are sought.

Details of the requirements and the qualifications and checks of individuals will be recorded by the Club Welfare Officer/Secretary/Manager who will also hold copies of the necessary Safeguarding and Protecting Children (SPC) certificates and England Golf Compliance approval letters. The nominated person will possess all relevant and appropriate contact details of all staff / volunteers and other relevant bodies.

All Staff, Volunteers & PGA Coaches will be offered access to appropriate child protection training. The Wrekin Golf Club recommends attendance at the sportscoachuk "SPC" workshop and will ensure that all volunteers and staff who have significant contact with children attend. Attendance at the training will be repeated every 3 years for those involved in regulated activity.



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All Staff, Volunteers & PGA Coaches working with children will be asked to read and become familiar with the Wrekin Golf Club Safeguarding Policy and Procedures.

All volunteers & coaches involved with children will be asked to read the Wrekin Golf Club Code of Conduct for Adults, and sign to indicate their agreement to act in accordance with the code. The code is linked to the Wrekin Golf Club Disciplinary Procedures.

2. **Complaints, concerns and allegations**

2.1 If a player, parent/carer, member of staff or volunteer has a concern about the welfare of a child, or the conduct of another child/young person or an adult (whether they are a parent, coach, member, or otherwise), these concerns should be brought to the attention of the Club Welfare Officer forthwith. The person reporting the concern is not required to decide whether abuse has occurred, but simply has a duty to pass information to the Welfare Officer. Please refer to Flowcharts 1 & 2 for further details (see below). If it cannot be reported to the Club Welfare Officer then it should be reported to the Secretary/Manager or England Golf Compliance Department.

2.2 All concerns will be treated in confidence. Details should only be shared with those who can help with the management of the concern.

2.3 Concerns will be recorded on an Incident Report Form (appendix 5) and sent to the England Golf Compliance department and retained confidentially within the club. *England Golf Compliance department will assist with completion of this form on the club's behalf if required, tel: 01526 351824.*

2.4 The Wrekin Golf Club will work with England Golf and other external agencies to take appropriate action in the case of abuse or serious poor practice. The Wrekin Golf Club disciplinary procedures will be applied and followed where possible.

2.5 In the event of a child making a disclosure of any type of abuse, the following guidance is given:

- Reassure the child that they have done the right thing to share the information
- Do not make promises that cannot be kept, such as promising not to tell anyone else
- Do not question the child or lead them in any way to disclose more information than they are comfortably able to: this may compromise any future action
- Record what the child has said as soon as possible on an incident report form.

Do not notify the parents unless you have first sought advice from the England Golf Compliance Office 01526 351824

2.6 The NSPCC Helpline is available to discuss concerns regarding poor practice and abuse in confidence with members of the public. No referrals are made from the calls. Those with concerns are encouraged to use this service. The Helpline number is 0808 800 5000.