



# Hythe & Dibden Cricket Club Safeguarding Training

April 2025





# What we talking about?

- **Child / Colt** = Anyone under the age of 18 years old
- **Safeguarding** = is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of **children** and protect them from harm.  
**Safeguarding** means: protecting **children** from abuse and maltreatment
- **Child protection** = the process of **protecting** individual **children** identified as either suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm as a result of abuse or neglect. It involves measures and structures designed to prevent and respond to abuse and neglect.



# Safeguarding in our club

It's important that everyone is safe at our cricket club. This includes not only during training and matches but also around the club by the environment we create.

**Who is responsible?** All of you and me!

Clubs Committee and Chair	<b>The Committee and Chair are ultimately responsible for everything that goes on in their club which includes safeguarding everyone (children, young people &amp; adults)</b>
Club Safeguarding Officer	The Club Safeguarding Officer is the person within a cricket club with primary responsibility for managing and reporting concerns and for putting into place procedures to safeguard everyone in the club
Coaches and other Paid or Volunteer Staff	All staff and volunteers have a legal and moral responsibility to ensure that all participants are safeguarded and protected in your club.



# A little quiz.....

Is it acceptable to:

- Push a child so hard they are regularly reduced to tears?
- Adult team members to change in the changing room with an under 18?
- Raise concerns if you think the behaviour of another adult towards a child is unacceptable?
- Take a photo or video of a child?
- Have a sexual relationship with a colt who is 17 years old?
- Meet with a child on your own?
- Provide physical support / touch a child?
- Take a child home?
- Transport one child on their own?
- Contact a child directly?
- What is the code to entrance gate?

# Answers

- Push a child so hard they are regularly reduced to tears? **No**
- Adult team members to change in the changing room with an under 18? – **No – see showering and changing room policy**
- Raise concerns if you think the behaviour of another adult towards a child is unacceptable? **Yes – who**
- Take a photo or video of a child? **Yes – but see policy**
- Have a sexual relationship with your child 17 years old? **No even though they are over the age of consent**
- Meet with a child on your own? **No**
- Provide physical support / touch a child? **Yes – when would this be appropriate?**
- Take a child home? **No – but may need to consider depending on the circumstances. What are these circumstances?**
- Transport one child on their own? **No - What could you do? Put them in the back and speaking to a family member while you drive**
- Contact a child directly? **No – all contact should be made through a parent . If over 16 and with parent consent. Where would you find parent consent?**
- What is the code to entrance gate? **6969 We now have a Medical Emergency Action plan which you should be familiar with and is in the safeguarding section of the website**



# Safeguarding Children

All organisations that work with or come into contact with children should have safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure that every child, regardless of their age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation, has a right to equal protection from harm.

Setting up and following good safeguarding policies and procedures means children are safe from adults and other children who might pose a risk. This includes voluntary and community organisations, faith groups, private sector providers, as well as schools, hospitals and sports Clubs. Our Club Mark accreditation and Safe Hands Portal demonstrate our commitment to this.

## **Safeguarding means:**

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective caretaking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.



# Safeguarding Adults

Safeguarding adults means protecting a person's right to live in safety, free from abuse or neglect. Getting this right in our club will ensure safe access for everyone.

Everyone has the right to be safe, we should respond to safeguarding concerns in relation to any adult similarly to our response to children.

The ECB Safeguarding Procedure is available for the reporting of adult safeguarding concerns and for those who may pose a risk to other adults to be appropriately managed.

All adults could become at risk and suffer abuse at some point.



# Legislation

01

## Protecting Children

- Children Act 1989 & 2004
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Working Together 2023
- The Social Services and Well-Being Act (Wales) 2014

03

## Safer Recruitment

- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974
- Part V, Police Act 1997

02

## Protecting Adults

- The Care Act 2014
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Mental Capacity Act 2005
- The Social Services and Well-Being Act (Wales) 2014

04

## Additional Considerations

- Human Rights Act
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

## Key Principles

- The child's welfare is paramount
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility
- All children have the right to be protected from abuse, regardless of their age, gender, disability, language, origin, religious beliefs, sexual orientation.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately







# Position of Trust

Why is this important to know?

**At what age do you become an adult in law?**



**At what age can a child consent to sexual activity?**





# Position of Trust

Section 16 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 raised the age of sexual consent from 16 to 18 for an adult in a Position of Trust over a child.

The law has now been changed to include sport, so a coach with responsibility for a child – the age of consent rises from 16 to 18.

Breach of this legislation is likely to result in a custodial sentence and a place on the sex offenders register.

Important that coaches and importantly young people are made aware of this legislative change.



# What is abuse?

## **Child abuse:**

- Is when a child is intentionally harmed by an adult or another child
- It can be over a period of time but can also be a one-off action.
- It can be physical, sexual or emotional and it can happen in person or online.
- It can also be a lack of love, care and attention – this is neglect.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/spotting-signs-child-abuse/>



# Some Common Signs

Some common signs that there may be something concerning happening in a child's life include:

- unexplained changes in behaviour or personality
- becoming withdrawn
- seeming anxious
- becoming uncharacteristically aggressive
- lacks social skills and has few friends, if any
- poor bond or relationship with a parent
- knowledge of adult issues inappropriate for their age
- running away or going missing
- always choosing to wear clothes which cover their body.

These signs don't necessarily mean that a child is being abused, there could be other things happening in their life which are affecting their behaviour but need to consider



# Coach's Inappropriate Behaviour





# Inappropriate Demonstration of a Technique





# Concerns about abuse





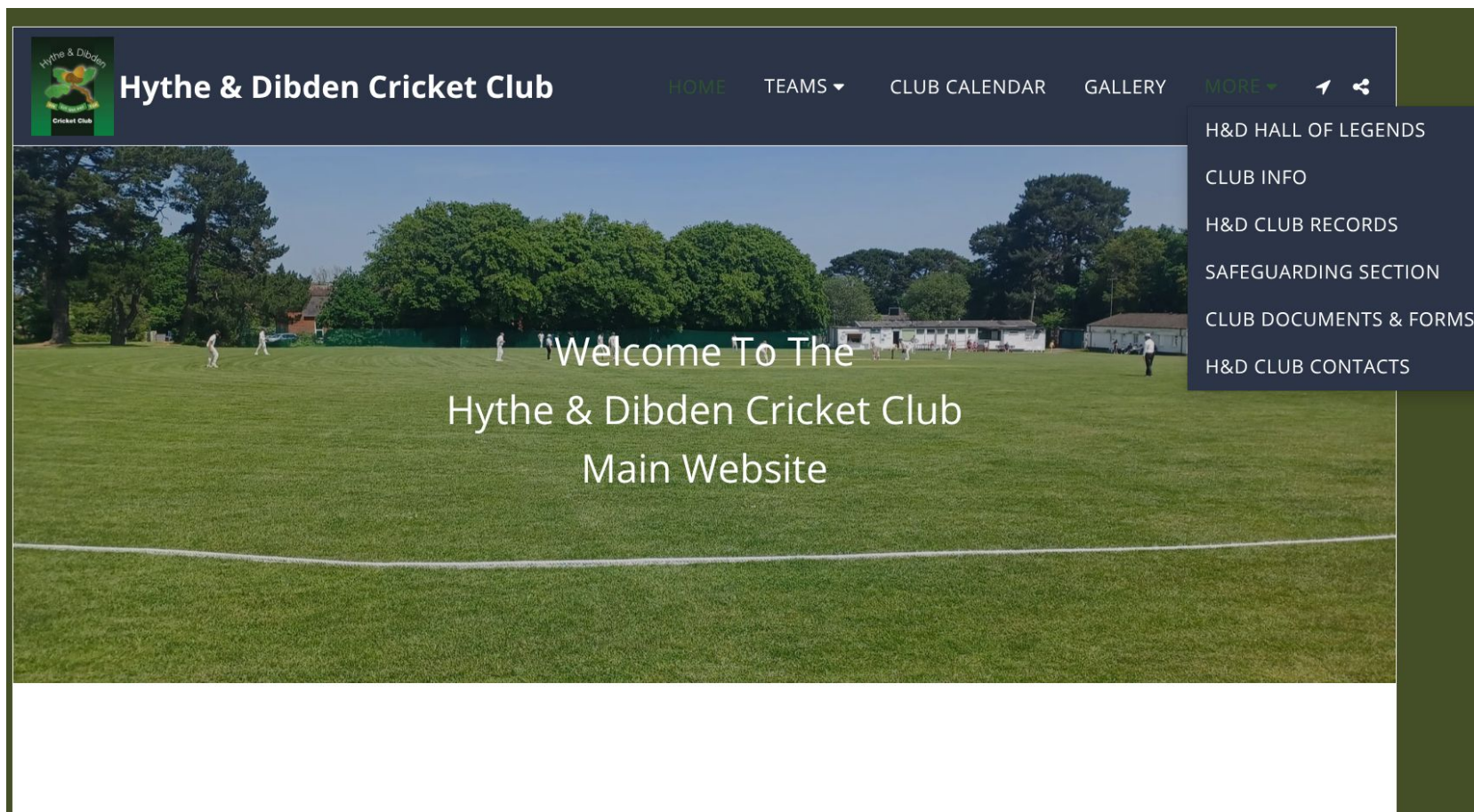
# How to manage a complaint







# Club Policies





# Club Website

← → ↻ [hythe-dibdenccricketclub.co.uk/safeguarding-section](https://hythe-dibdenccricketclub.co.uk/safeguarding-section)



Hythe & Dibden Cricket Club

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## SAFEGUARDING SECTION

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Club Safeguarding Officers are vital members of the club and key to making an environment safe, welcoming and friendly for children to enjoy the game of cricket.

### **Why do clubs need a Club Safeguarding Officer?**

Whilst everyone is responsible for safeguarding, the Club Safeguarding Officer will make sure the policies and procedures are in place (please see below), and that everyone who should be vetted to work with children, is vetted by the ECB.

They are the person that others come to if they have concerns, and having attended specific training, will know what to do in order to assist, or who to ask for further help.

Hythe and Dibden Cricket Club is committed to continuing to provide an environment where children are welcomed, feel safe and have their views and feelings taken into consideration.



# Hythe and Dibden Cricket Club Incident or Concern Reporting Form for Safeguarding

If you have concerns or a child tells you something which needs reporting please complete the form and contact the club safeguarding officer ASAP

Do not promise confidentiality

Do **nothing** until you seek advice from safeguarding officer

This form is not an accident form. If someone gets injured then you need to complete the accident book (metal cupboard behind the bar) and give to safeguarding officer ASAP



# Colts Feedback Form

To promote a welcoming environment in the club we have developed a feedback form for colts and or parents to use.

The aim of the form is to be able to provide feedback on any of the training sessions or games any under 18 year old participating in over the season.

The form is anonymous and can be completed at any time. Once submitted it will be sent to the Safeguarding Officer for review and action.

Can be found on the website.



# Low Level Concerns

Low-level concerns, sometimes called poor practice, are small rule breaks that breach our code of conduct or behaviour that falls below what is required by Hythe and Dibden Cricket and the ECB.

A low level concern is something you have observed/been told about that you feel needs recording because:

- it may need to be shared with other volunteers / parents / professionals
- where action was taken to deal with the concern/incident
- no action was taken but the concern needs monitoring in case action needs to be taken

To support the reporting of low level concerns we have created a Google form - see safeguarding section on the website for link

Please use this form to share any concerns - no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, that an adult may have acted in a manner which is not consistent with ECB Safe Hands Guidance and our club and coaches Code of Conduct.



# Guidance for Colts playing in adults cricket

We have a duty of care towards all young players who are representing the club. Please read CM17 Guidance for Junior Cricketers playing in Adult Matches (found on the website) as this has lots of useful information you need to know

The duty of care should be interpreted in two ways:

- Not to place a young player in a position that involves an unreasonable risk to that young player, taking account of the circumstances of the match and the relative skills of the player
- Not to create a situation that places members of the opposing side in a position whereby they cannot play cricket as they would normally do against adult players

Please check out our website as there is concussion guidelines



# Guidance for Colts playing in adults cricket

Captain must notify the umpires and opposition captain if any under 18's playing in an adults game

No colts to umpire league games including standing leg umpire

All under 18 years old **MUST** wear a groin protector and a helmet when batting or wicket keeping

You must follow the ECB fielding and bowling directives





# Guidance for Colts playing in adults cricket

Players must observe the following minimum fielding distances:

Age in years	Minimum Fielding Distance (from the striking batter)
9 or younger	11 yards (10 meters)
10 - 13	11 yards (10 meters)
14 - 15	8 yards (7.3 meters)
16 – 17	No minimum distance but if fielding within 8 yards (7.3 meters) in Hardball Cricket cricketers must comply with Regulation 4.2.3
18+	No minimum distance but if fielding within 8 yards (7.3 meters), in Hardball Cricket see ECB Recreational Cricket Safety Guidelines for safety recommendations





# Guidance for Colts playing in adults cricket

The following table sets out the mandatory maximum number of overs a Fast Bowler can bowl per spell and per day:

Age in years	Max overs per Spell	Max overs per day
11 and below	4	8
12 & 13	5	10
14 & 15	5	12
16 & 17	6	15
18 & 19	7	18



# Guidance for Colts playing in adults cricket

Players aged 12 can play open age cricket. We must have written consent which is on the colts membership form.

Written approval must be obtained from parents/guardians and the County Pathway Lead before a player aged 11 and who has started School Year 7 is eligible to play open age cricket. There is a form on the website to complete

Parents or a nominated adult to be present throughout the game. Team members are not there to act as free child care



# Key Contacts

Club Safeguarding Officer	Dawn Bowman	Mobile number: 07590305102  Email address: <a href="mailto:dawn_bowman@outlook.com">dawn_bowman@outlook.com</a>
County Safeguarding Officer	John Cook	Hampshire Cricket Club Mobile number: 07766838779 Email address: <a href="mailto:John.Cook@utilitabowl.com">John.Cook@utilitabowl.com</a>
ECB Safeguarding Team	Cricket Regulator Safeguarding Team	Email address: <a href="mailto:safeguarding@cricketregulator.co.uk">safeguarding@cricketregulator.co.uk</a>

# Any Questions

