

England & Wales Cricket Board

Safeguarding Adults Policy Statement

Victory Cricket Club Safeguarding Policy (Adapted from ECB policy)

The Victory Cricket Club is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment and accepts our responsibility to safeguard Adults at Risk involved in all levels of Cricket in England & Wales in accordance with legislation.¹

Safeguarding means protecting an adults right to live safely, free from abuse and neglect.

The ECB Safeguarding Adults Policy applies to all individuals involved in Cricket.

The ECB will encourage and support partner organisations, including Clubs and Counties, to adopt and demonstrate their commitment to the principles set out in this safeguarding adult's policy.

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 the abuse, neglect, or the risk of the risk of it.

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.

The aims of our Safeguarding Adults Policy is 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.

¹ The Care Act 2014 (England) and the Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014 (Wales).

- Raise awareness so that cricket communities, alongside professionals, play their part in identifying and preventing abuse and neglect.

Principles

This 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.
- There is a drive to ensure that 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 zero tolerance 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 will be taken seriously and responded to quickly in line with the ECB's Safeguarding Procedures.
- We (VCC) recognise 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

Making Safeguarding Personal

'Making safeguarding personal' means that adult safeguarding should be person led and outcome focussed. It engages the person in a conversation about how best to respond to their safeguarding situation in a way that enhances involvement, choice, and control. As well as improving quality of life, well-being, and safety.

Wherever possible discuss safeguarding concerns with the adult to get their view of what they would like to happen and keep them involved in the safeguarding process, seeking their consent to share information outside of the organisation where necessary.

There may be circumstances where you need to share information with other agencies to protect an individual.

Confidentiality

It is important that information is treated as confidential as far as is reasonably possible to build trust and respect. If you think that sharing information with another person such as the Safeguarding Officer/Coach/Manager could help the person, encourage the person to disclose information themselves with the people who need to know. If they do not wish to do this, explain to the individual that you will need to inform others such as the Safeguarding Officer and the reasons why, and seek their clear and specific consent to this.

Complaint Management Procedure

General Statement

Victory Cricket Club is responsible for setting and maintaining standards within the sport and for ensuring that a complaints policy and associated procedures are in place. All complaints received will be dealt with promptly, fairly and confidentially. Our emphasis is early resolution of problems with minimum of disruption.

NOTE: We are required to retain records of all complaints for a minimum of two years.

If you feel you have a complaint you should follow the stages below to seek a satisfactory resolution to your complaint.

Stage 1

We would suggest you make an informal complaint to the individual. The individual will then discuss the complaint with you and attempt to agree a way forward or a solution that is acceptable to both parties. You may have to allow time for the individual to investigate or remedy your complaint and you should discuss timescales to speak to you again about the complaint. At the end of this time we hope that an amicable solution will have been found. If it has not been resolved, you are encouraged to progress to Stage 2.

Stage 2

If the initial complaint cannot be resolved informally via the Stage 1 process, or if you do not consider it appropriate to discuss the issue informally, the complaint should be submitted in writing to the Safeguarding Officer.

Formal written complaints should be made to:

Safeguarding officer – Mr Arun Nair
Email: nair.engineer@gmail.com

Please include as much detail as possible including any appropriate supporting documentation.

We will acknowledge, in writing, all written complaints within 5 working days and outline the course of action that we will be taking. We will then carry out an investigation (this stage will include the Chairperson and other Executive members) of your complaint and write to you within 30 days with our findings and a decision as to whether the complaint is justified/supported and a summary of what action we propose taking to resolve the issue, if required.

NOTE: The conclusion made at the end of Stage 2 is not subject to any further appeal process.

Late Collection Policy

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure that all children are collected from cricket training and matches punctually. Victory Cricket Club is not responsible for transporting children home when parents or carers have been delayed.

If there is an unavoidable delay due to an emergency, it is the responsibility of the parent or carer to contact the cricket coach or team manager to inform them of the delay. Arrangements should be made by the parent or carer for another responsible adult to collect their child, the coach or team manager should be contacted so that they know who will be collecting the child.

However, in cases of late collection, staff and volunteers must:

- Attempt to contact the parent/carer on their contact number.
- Attempt to contact parent/carer on the alternative contact number provided.
- Staff and volunteers should wait with the child at the ground with at least one other staff/volunteer or parent present.

In cases of late collection, staff and volunteers must not:

- Take the child home or to another location.
- Send the child home with another person, without obtaining the consent of the child's parent/carer.
- Wait with the child in a vehicle or at the ground with you alone.
- Allow the child to wait unattended until the parent or a representative arrives.

If parents or carers are happy for children under the age of 14 to travel home from training and matches unaccompanied they should notify the club in writing.

Any concerns regarding the above should be raised to the team manager, captain or Club Safeguarding Officer.

Policy Review Management

One of the primary objective of the safeguarding policy is to regularly review this policy to ensure the effectiveness of the club's safeguarding activities. This will be regularly reviewed by the club executives to ensure that the policy remains aligned with ECB safeguarding policies.

Important Contacts

Name	Position	Contact
Sarath Muralidharan	Club Chairperson	
Joby Joseph	Hon Club Secretary	
Sanjay Shenoy	Club Captain	
Arun Nair	Club Safeguarding Officer	

Relevant Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- ECB Safeguarding Procedures
- Safe Hands Policies
- General Conduct Regulations

Guidance and Reference

- <https://www.anncrafttrust.org/>
- <https://gov.wales/safeguarding-guidance>
- www.safeguarding.wales



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