

# HAYLING ISLAND BOWLS CLUB

## **Safeguarding “Adults at Risk” & “Young People” Policy Statement**

Approval Date	Amendment(s)
12/06/15	Policy Document Issued
23/01/17	Document reviewed.
26/09/2019	Vulnerable Persons & Child terminology changed to Adults at Risk & Young People & Protection Officer changed to Safeguarding Officer in line with September 2019 Constitution update.
21/10/2021	Document reviewed.

# **Safeguarding "Adults At Risk" & "Young People" Protection Policy Statement**

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# **Safeguarding "Adults At Risk" & "Young People" Protection Policy Statement**

## **1 Introduction**

The Hayling Island Bowls Club (HIBC) has considered its responsibilities to "Adults At Risk" and "Young People" participating in bowls games under its jurisdiction very carefully and has produced this Safeguarding "Adults At Risk" & "Young People" Policy Statement that sets out the standards that we wish to uphold in providing activities for such people and safeguarding them accordingly.

HIBC works closely with The Portsmouth & District Bowling Association which is an Associate Member of Bowls England (BE), which in turn is the National Governing Body (NGB) for the sport of Flat Green Lawn Bowls in England.

As such, we adhere to its Safeguarding Bowls Policy, which can be found on the web here - <http://www.safeguardingbowls.org/>.

NOTE: As well as the Safeguarding Policy, that site also contains many useful supporting documents.

## **2 Definitions**

**Young People** – those under 18

**Adult At Risk** – A person aged 18 or over who 'is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation'. (Definition from the Department Of Health 2002). This could include people with learning disabilities, mental health problems, older people and people with a physical disability or impairment. It may also include victims of domestic abuse, hate crime and anti-social behaviour. The persons' need for additional support to protect themselves may be increased when complicated by additional factors, such as, physical frailty or chronic illness, sensory impairment, challenging behaviour, drug or alcohol problems, social or emotional problems, poverty or homelessness.

## **3 Policy Statement**

HIBC acknowledges that it has a duty of care to safeguard the welfare of all Adults At Risk and Young People and who are involved in bowls played under its jurisdiction. All such persons have a right to protection and have their particular needs taken into account.

Therefore, HIBC will endeavour to ensure the safety and protection of all young people involved with the Association through the Safeguarding Guidelines adopted hereby adopted by the Club.

## **4 Policy Aims**

The aims of our policy are:

- To provide both Adults At Risk and Young People with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of HIBC and also help them to enjoy their experience of the sport.
- To reassure parents/guardians that such persons will receive the best practicable care possible whilst participating in HIBC activities.
- To provide support to members and volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific Adult At Risk persons and Young People protection issues and to fulfil their role effectively.

## **5 Principles**

Our principles are as follows:

The welfare of both adults at risk and young people is paramount.

All such persons, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, ethnic origin or religious beliefs have the right to protection from abuse.

All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

All members have a responsibility to report concerns to the HIBC Club Protection Officer.

Members and coaches will be supported to understand their role and responsibility with regard to the duty of care and protection of young people.

Individuals will, as necessary, receive support through education and training to be aware of, as well as understand, the best practices and how to manage any adult at risk or young people protection issues that may come to light.

HIBC will work in partnership with both adult at risk and young people and parents/guardians to review and implement our Safeguarding procedures.

Our policies and procedures are based on the above principles, as well as UK and International legislation and government guidance, including:

- The Children Act 1989 and 2004.
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013.
- The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

Any subsequent legislation relating to vulnerable persons and child protection would implicitly be incorporated into this document.

## **6 Responsibilities, Communication, Monitoring and Review**

Our Safeguarding “Adults at Risk” & “Young People” Policy Statement is available to all members and parents/guardians via our website <http://www.haylingislandbowls.org/>

It will be reviewed by the HIBC Management Committee one year after being introduced and then every three years or in response to significant legislation and amended as appropriate.

Guidance from Bowls England will be sought as part of the review.

HIBC Management Committee has responsibility for ensuring that the policy and procedures are implemented, including referring any appropriate disciplinary action to the NGB, as appropriate.

If a member or volunteer suspects that an adult at risk / young person may be being abused, whether physically or emotionally, it is not their responsibility to take control of the situation or to decide whether the abuse is actually taking place. However, they do have a responsibility to inform the Club Protection Officer so that he/she may make enquiries and take any action necessary for the well-being of the adult at risk / young person.

The HIBC Safeguarding Officer has responsibility for responding to any allegations, concerns or adult at risk / young people protection incidents arising as a result of individuals participating in HIBC events. Where appropriate, he/she will also pass on information to the BE Safeguarding Officer as well as informing P&D officers.

Parents/guardians must complete the Club's Junior Player Consent Form for their child / children. They must also keep the Club's Safeguarding Officer aware of any changes that occur, particularly as regards medical history.

Parents/guardians have a responsibility to work with the HIBC in implementing these procedures and providing persons in their care with the necessary information to keep themselves safe.

It will be the responsibility of the relevant Club Officer (e.g. Match Secretary, Team Captain) to inform the Host Club if an adult at risk or young person is either in a HIBC Team or accompanying the team, so that they (the Host Club) can make suitable preparations.

Our policy will be monitored in partnership with Bowls England and Bowls Development Alliance procedures.

**\* \* \* End of Document \* \* \***