



Didsbury Toc H Rugby Football Club

Junior Safeguarding Policy

Arthur Crabtree
27 November
2023

1. Didsbury Toc H Rugby Football Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children involved in the Club from harm.
2. Didsbury Toc H RFC confirms that it adheres to the Rugby Football Union's Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, practices and guidelines and endorses and adopts the Policy Statement contained in that document and any successor policy. A link to the policy is provided here [RFU Safeguarding Policy](#).
3. A child is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any rugby union activity. However, where a 17 year old is playing in the adult game it is essential that every reasonable precaution is taken to ensure his safety and wellbeing. Please refer to RFU Regulation 15 for more details on Age Grade Rugby. Parental Consent is required for players aged 17 playing in the adult game.
4. The Key Principles of the RFU Safeguarding Policy are that:
 - The welfare of the child is, and must always be, paramount to any other considerations.
 - All participants regardless of age, gender, ability or disability, race, faith, culture, size, shape, language or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse or harm.
 - All allegations or suspicions of abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly and appropriately.
 - Working in partnership with other organisations, statutory agencies, parents, carers, children and young people is essential for the welfare of children.
 - Children have a right to expect support, and personal and social development delivered by an appropriately recruited and vetted person, which is managed in relation to their participation in rugby union, whether they are playing, volunteering or officiating in the community or professional areas of the sport.
5. Didsbury Toc H RFC recognises that all children have the right to participate in sport in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment whilst at the same time being protected from abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice.
6. Didsbury Toc H RFC recognises that this is the responsibility of everyone involved, in whatever capacity, at the Club.
7. Didsbury Toc H RFC will implement and comply with the RFU Code of Conduct and the Codes of Conduct for Coaches, Spectators and Officials as appropriate.

8. If you witness or are aware of an incident where the welfare of a child has been put at risk you must, in the first instance, inform the Club Safeguarding Officer. They will then inform the Constituent Body Safeguarding Manager and the RFU Safeguarding Team. If an incident involves Didsbury Toc H RF Club's Safeguarding Officer you should inform the Didsbury Toc H RFC Junior Club Chairman and either the Constituent Body Safeguarding Manager or the RFU Safeguarding Team, details of which can be found at the end of this policy.
9. All members of Didsbury Toc H RFC who work with children in Regulated Activity must undertake an RFU Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check in accordance with RFU Regulation 21.
10. Didsbury Toc H RFC will ensure that all its members, whether they are coaches, parents, players or officials will comply with the Best Practice Guidance as issued by the RFU.
11. Didsbury Toc H RFC ensures that all its coaches, parents, officials and spectators are aware that adults and children should not shower or change at the same time, using the same facilities.
12. Didsbury Toc H RFC does not tolerate bullying in any form, including physical, verbal and emotional. Didsbury Toc H RFC encourages any such behaviour to be reported to the safeguarding officer for appropriate action under the terms of the RFU's anti-bullying policy.
13. Didsbury Toc H RFC will ensure that the club workforce both voluntary and paid following a successful recruitment process, undergo DBS clearance, if appropriate and agree not to work with children unsupervised, until such time as a successful DBS check is in place. All staff (paid or voluntary) will undergo an induction which will include the identification of any training needs, signposting to relevant documentation such as; Codes of Conduct and Codes of Good Practice and the Club's and the RFU's Safeguarding Policies.
14. Didsbury Toc H RFC will ensure that its coaches and team managers will receive the support and training considered appropriate to their position and role. The RFU "Managing Challenging Behaviour" Policy has been adopted and circulated amongst the club workforce both, voluntary and paid.

15. Didsbury Toc H RFC will ensure that when practical, parental consent will be obtained for photographs to be taken whilst a child is at the Club or at an away fixture and that all images taken are appropriate and used appropriately in line with the RFU Safeguarding Policy and guidance.
16. Didsbury Toc RFC will ensure that where possible Club officials will communicate Club details through parents and / or carers and not through children directly, this includes telephone, social networking sites and email.
17. Didsbury Toc H RFC ensures that the adult to child ratios are met, with at least one DBS checked adult in charge of any group of children. This guideline applies to any Club tours, where an additional risk assessment will also be undertaken and require the approval of the safeguarding officer.
18. Didsbury Toc H RFC ensures that the adult to child ratios are met, with at least one DBS checked adult in charge of any group of children. This guideline applies to any Club tours, where an additional risk assessment will also be undertaken and require the approval of the safeguarding officer.

Please remember

If a child has disclosed concerning information to you OR you have witnessed or had reported to you an incident or complaint involving the behaviour of an adult in relation to a child, which may be considered abuse or poor practice – please contact the Club Safeguarding Officer.

STAY CALM - REASSURE - NO PROMISES - FEW QUESTIONS

If the victim is in need of urgent medical treatment, please contact the emergency services.

At the earliest convenience contact the Club Safeguarding Officers.

Key Contacts

The Club Safeguarding Officers are:

Jenny Wilkins jennywilkins@nhs.net 07970775357

John Hoey hoeyj@hotmail.co.uk 07713636678

The Junior Club Chairman is:

John Day [07813623085 jlday@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jlday@hotmail.co.uk)

Useful links

RFU Safeguarding Policy

http://www.englandrugby.com/mm/Document/MyRugby/Volunteers/01/30/36/55/RFU_Safeguarding_Policy_Guidance_and_Procedures_Neutral.pdf

RFU Anti-Bullying Policy

<http://www.englandrugby.com/mm/Document/General/General/01/30/07/22/antibullyingbooklet.pdf>

Regulation 15

http://www.englandrugby.com/mm/Document/Governance/Regulations/01/30/34/88/RFU_Regulation_15_Neutral.pdf

Regulation 21

http://www.englandrugby.com/mm/Document/Governance/Regulations/01/30/35/32/RFU_Regulation_21_Neutral.pdf