

British Inline Puck Hockey Association

# Safeguarding policy

January 2022





## BIPHA Child Protection, Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

*For clubs, regional associations and any affiliated clubs or associations*

This policy has been written on behalf of the British Inline Puck Hockey Association to fall in line with legislation covering the working of children whether in paid or voluntary work.

Further information if required can be obtained from the

National Safeguarding Lead Officer

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BIPHA

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Second Contact if the above person is not available

National Executive Officer

Ms Kathy Morris

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## **Introduction**

The British Inline Puck Hockey Association (BIPHA) acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people (as defined by the Children's Act 2004) and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory requirements, government guidance and that all necessary steps are taken to protect from harm those children and young people who participate and are under the supervision of the association and its members and volunteers.

The aim of the policy is to promote good practice ensuring that whilst participating in BIPHA related events either at a local, national or international level, children and young people are kept safe and protected from unnecessary harm.

The policy alongside the safeguarding procedures handbook and codes of conduct clarify what is expected of affiliated clubs, associated organisations, referees, coaches and all individuals connected with the sport, or providing a service to the sport. All will be aware of who to contact and be able to make informed and appropriate responses to child protection concerns. It is expected that each region/club will adopt the three documents to ensure the welfare of children and young people within the BIPHA association

## **Policy Statement**

BIPHA recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children

- Have a positive and enjoyable experience of inline hockey in a safe and child centred environment
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in inline hockey or outside of the sport.
- have the opportunity to participate in the sport of inline hockey.

BIPHA also recognises that some children can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and acknowledges its responsibility to take responsible and



appropriate steps to ensure the welfare of these children and young people.

For the purpose of child protection, welfare and safeguarding the NEC of the BIPHA shall appoint a National Safeguarding Lead to act on behalf of the organisation

BIPHA is committed to the following

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- ensure all coaches, referees, team managers, volunteers, officials and club personnel, understand their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and are provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- ensure that inline puck hockey should be a sport that is inclusive and enjoyed by all and that everyone is treated with dignity and respect.
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed, and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored in accordance with current legislation
- prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation
- working in partnership with clubs, organisations, parents, and children to promote the highest possible standard of care.

It is recognised that child abuse is an emotive and difficult subject. BIPHA will aim to understand the feelings involved but not allow them to interfere with judgement about any action taken.



All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately following the Associations procedures. BIPHA will work together with parents and carers alongside the NSPCC, Social Services Departments, Local Area Safeguarding Boards and the Police in accordance with their procedures.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted, and it is mandatory that all affiliated clubs and associated organisations adopt all policies and procedures as set down by BIPHA regarding the welfare of children and young people. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

### **Monitoring**

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance.
- as required by Local Safeguarding children Board, UK Sport and/or Home Country Sports Councils and British Roller Sports Federation.
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

The procedures should be regularly reviewed and monitored. The Safeguarding Officers of the clubs and regions should regularly report progress, challenges, difficulties and areas where changes are required to the National Safeguarding Lead and National Executive Committee.

Last reviewed January 2022