

Safeguarding Children in Sport

At the 2005 Annual General Meeting, the League introduced a Child Protection Policy and training for referees, players, officials and other volunteers that helps us to meet our legal obligations to develop a culture in which young people can participate in a safe and enjoyable environment.

Every year young people, coaches, club officials and other volunteers derive great fun and satisfaction from belonging to sports clubs. As a voluntary organisation, Bury Rounders League has a duty not to harm or endanger anyone as a result of the activities it promotes.

Everyone who participates in the game of rounders is entitled to do so in an enjoyable and safe environment and to be given the chance to experience the fun, challenge and sense of achievement that are inherent to sport. In addition, all young people are entitled to a duty of care and to be protected from abuse. We are committed to devising and implementing policies and procedures to ensure everyone in the sport accepts their responsibilities to safeguard children from harm and abuse. This means providing training for those people who have direct contact with young people (club welfare officers and referees) and taking action to safeguard children, and to report any concerns about their welfare.

The 'Policy and Procedures for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults' has been produced and distributed to all Team Secretaries. It is important that individuals within your club/team are made aware of the existence of this document and are given ample opportunity to read it. By raising the profile of the policy in your club/team, you will be contributing to the proactive nature of Bury Rounders by contributing to our commitment to developing a culture in which young people can participate in a safe and enjoyable environment.

As part of this criterion, Bury Rounders has a nominated a "Welfare Team" whose responsibility is to:

- Promote the 'Policy and Procedures for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults', including the distribution and display of leaflets and codes of conduct to members, parents and young people;
- Source and deliver appropriate training for club/team officials and volunteers;
- Support the registration of all personnel involved in activities for young people within your club;
- Receive, record and pass on to the appropriate agencies any concerns relating to the welfare of young people within your club;
- Liaise with the necessary agencies on matters of child protection.

Please make yourself and your team familiar with the Policy and Procedures for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults. If you require further copies or have any questions regarding its content or implementation, please contact Arron Lever and they will be happy to discuss them with you.

Of course if you have a concern about the welfare of any young person, you can report these directly to any of the agencies below:

Bury Police Child Protection Service - 0161 856 8063

Bury Metro Social Child Care Services Team - 0161 253 5454 / 6606

Childline - 0800 1111 **NSPCC** (24 hr helpline) - 0800 800 500

Designated Officers for the League:

Arron Lever (designated welfare officer) – 07793 485995

**All referees must attend Safeguarding Training and familiarise themselves with the League's Policy on Protecting Children and Vulnerable Adults.
Contact Arron Lever for more information.**