

VK Barnet Volleyball Club

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Safeguarding & Protecting Young People Statement

The Volleyball England ‘Safeguarding & Protecting Young People Policy and Good Practice Guidance’ document applies to all VK Barnet Volleyball Club employees and volunteers at any event organised by, or held under the authority of, Volleyball England and/or any other affiliated body. As part of the Club’s commitment to best practice in the care of young people, it is expected that all members of the Club community will comply with the Policy and the regulations contained within it. Part of the Volleyball England Affiliation Process requires the Club Safeguarding Officer and/or Chairperson to sign up to this Policy on behalf of the affiliated club, group or organisation. For the purposes of all Safeguarding & Protecting Young People documentation, a young person is anyone who has not yet reached their eighteenth birthday.

VK Barnet Volleyball Club (“the Club”) agrees to adopt and abide by the Volleyball England Safeguarding & Protecting Young People Policy and Good Practice Guidance document which includes adoption of their “Block It Out !” Anti-Bullying Charter.

The Club Welfare Officer is Gareth Lane. His contact email is : {garethlane5@hotmail.com}

The Policy is predicated on the following principles:

- A young person’s welfare is paramount.
- A young person, regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, social status or sexual orientation has a right to be protected from abuse.
- The rights, dignity and worth of a young person should always be respected.
- Deaf and disabled young people have an increased vulnerability and are up to four times more likely to be abused than other young people (Sullivan & Knutson 2000). It is essential to be additionally aware of their safeguarding needs and there may be situations where there is a need to take extra measures.
- Volleyball England promotes a culture where everyone is free to speak out regarding concerns; everyone within volleyball must report all concerns in accordance with Volleyball England’s reporting procedures.
- It is the responsibility of child protection experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is everyone’s responsibility within volleyball to report concerns.

The Children Act 1989 (as amended by The Children Act 2004) states that anyone who is involved in the care of children should "do what is reasonable in the circumstances for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child’s welfare".

The Club believes that :

- the safety and welfare of children should always be of paramount importance, whatever the circumstances;

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- every individual with a role in working with children has a role and responsibility to help ensure the safety and welfare of young people;
- every individual with a role in working with children must accept that they are required to fulfill their duty of care which means that they must do everything that can be reasonably expected of them to help safeguard and protect young people from any reasonably foreseeable harm.
- extra care is needed in dealing with children whose age, inexperience or physical state makes them particularly vulnerable to abuse.
- A child's welfare is the paramount consideration.
- A child, regardless of age, ability, gender, racial origin, religious belief and sexual orientation has a right to be protected from abuse.
- The rights, dignity and worth of a child should always be respected.

The Club:

- has therefore adopted this Safeguarding & Protecting Young People Policy to ensure that the welfare and safety of children in their care or custody is always the primary consideration;
- is committed to providing an environment where children can learn about, participate in and enjoy volleyball free from harassment or abuse.

The Club believes every young person has the right:

- To have fun.
- To participate in volleyball in an enjoyable and safe environment.
- To be treated with respect by all adults and players.
- To compete and train at an appropriate level for their age and ability.
- To report any problems to the Club Safeguarding Officer.
- To be considered for every match or competition. • To train and compete safely and have appropriate medical treatment if required.
- To be coached by a Volleyball England qualified coach.
- To express their opinions.

Statement Of Intent

VK Barnet Volleyball Club believes that whatever the circumstances, the safety and welfare of children should always be of paramount importance. VK Barnet Volleyball Club is committed to providing an environment where children can learn about, participate in and enjoy volleyball free from harassment or abuse. VK Barnet Volleyball Club believes that special care is needed in dealing with children, whose age, inexperience or physical state makes them particularly vulnerable to abuse.