

Birmingham Unicorns Cricket Club

Safeguarding Policy Statement

Birmingham Unicorns Cricket Club (the Club) is committed to ensuring everyone involved in cricket can participate in an environment that is safe, welcoming, inclusive and enjoyable. Safeguarding is a shared responsibility, and everyone connected to the club; players, coaches, officials, administrators, staff, volunteers, spectators, parents and carers have a role to play. Our collective actions on and off the field help to create a positive and inclusive safeguarding culture.

We will do this by:

- Having the right people in place
- Creating the right culture and environment
- Ensuring clear processes are in place for reporting and responding to safeguarding concerns
- Adopting and implementing the ECB's Safe Hands Policy and Guidance

Having the Right People in Place

While safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, the Club appoints a Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) who has completed the ECB's specialist Safe Hands training.

The Club Safeguarding Officer is:

- The first point of contact for all safeguarding matters involving children or adults including parents/carers volunteers, and members at the Club
- Responsible for ensuring that those working with children at the Club are subject to appropriate safer recruitment processes, in line with ECB safer recruitment guidance.
- Is a member of the club committee
- A source of safeguarding advice for the Club, its committee, and members
- The Club's main point of contact for the County Safeguarding Officer, the Cricket Regulator Safeguarding Team and other relevant safeguarding agencies
- The person responsible for ensuring clear and comprehensive reporting procedures exist for raising and managing safeguarding concerns.

Creating the Right Culture and Environment

Everyone participating in cricket regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability, has the right to enjoy the game in an environment that is safe from abuse and harm. The Club recognises that safeguarding is not only about responding to concerns it is about promoting a positive, safe, welcoming and inclusive culture which provides the best environment for participants to enjoy themselves and the game of cricket.

All individuals in specialist roles at the Club (Captains and Team Managers, Coaches, Officials (Umpires and Scorers) and Committee Members) are required to complete Safeguarding Training (Safeguarding Level 2 or hold the Safeguarding for specialist roles)



The Club will:

- Encourage all our members to complete the ECB online Safeguarding Induction and to provide the necessary support through education and training to understand their safeguarding responsibilities.
- Follow ECB safer recruitment guidance to ensure that all individuals working at or for the Club are suitable for their roles.
- Promote a listening culture where the views of club members are actively sought and acted upon. Creating an environment where people have the opportunity and confidence to raise concerns, including concerns about poor practice, abuse and neglect.
- Ensuring that external organisations who are delivering services on behalf of the Club have safeguarding measures in place which meet the requirements of ECB Safe Hands Policy.

Reporting and Responding to Safeguarding Concerns

We aim to ensure that everyone at the Club feels confident to raise a concern, no matter how small. The club will respond quickly and effectively, which is central to a proactive safeguarding culture at the Club.

- All suspicions, concerns and allegations will be taken seriously.
- We will follow the 3R's with every concern: **Responding** appropriately, **Recording** confidentiality and **Reporting** were appropriately.
- The Club recognises that it is *not* the responsibility of club members to determine whether abuse has occurred, their role is to act upon and report any concerns promptly.
- We ensure that confidential information relating to safeguarding matters is shared appropriately and only with those who need to know. Information may need to be shared with local agencies with statutory responsibility for safeguarding. Where required the club will seek advice from our County Safeguarding Officer or the Cricket Regulator.

Adopting the ECB's Safe Hands Policy and Guidance

- The Club has formally adopted the ECB's Safe Hands Policy and guidance as part of our constitution
- The Club works within the ECB Safeguarding Procedure for the management of safeguarding concerns and investigations
- We ensure that all individuals who work and volunteer at or for our Club understand how the requirement of ECB Safe Hands policy applies to them.

Club Commitment

Birmingham Unicorns CC are committed to this Safeguarding Policy Statement and will review it on an annual basis.

Date Completed – Approved by BUCC Committee on 20th April 2026

Signed by – James Buckle, Chair & Simon Best, Club Safeguarding Officer

Date of renewal – 1st April 2027

Our Club Safeguarding Officer's details are:

Name – Simon Best

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