



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE POLICY

This policy is a safeguarding policy for children and young people. This policy aims to ensure high safeguarding standards among our coaches, team officials and volunteers.

Lancaster & District Hockey Club's (LDHC) Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy applies to any person or organisation involved in the care of children and young people participating in Hockey (coaches, team officials, and volunteers).

The terms 'child' and 'young person' describe any person under the age of 18.

This policy has been developed with guidance from and in conjunction with England Hockey (EH).

Section A: Safeguarding children and young people policy statement

LDHC recognises the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practices that reflect and comply with government guidance, best practices, and England Hockey (EH) requirements.

LDHC recognises that the welfare and interests of children and young people are paramount whatever the circumstances.

We aim to ensure that regardless of age, ability, gender, racial origin, religious belief, sex or sexual orientation, or socio-economic background, all children and young people:

- Have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport at LDHC in a safe and child-centred environment
- Are protected from abuse whilst participating in hockey or outside of the activity

We recognise that some children and young people may have additional vulnerability, due to disability, language, sexual orientation, culture, or the fact that they perform in an elite environment and therefore may face additional barriers to accessing help and reporting concerns in respect of safeguarding.

Section B: Our Policy

As part of our safeguarding policy LDHC will:

- Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- Provide an environment where children and young people can learn about, participate in, and enjoy hockey free from harassment, discrimination, or abuse
- Value, listen to and respect children and young people
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in place
- Adopt safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures, and codes of conduct for coaches, team officials, and volunteers
- Ensure that everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding. Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility
- Ensure that all coaches, team officials, and volunteers have appropriate training to recognise, respond, and report signs of abuse, neglect, and other safeguarding concerns and that this is updated every three years
- Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of all incidents or concerns
- Prevent the employment or deployment of unsuitable people by recruiting and selecting coaches,



- team officials, and volunteers safely by using DBS checks
- Appoint a Club Welfare Officer who has attended the appropriate training for the role
- Ensure that everyone including players, and their parents or carers know where to go for help if they have a concern

Section C: Safe dispersal of children

Safe dispersal procedures:

- Ensure that children who require adult supervision and who may feel particularly vulnerable when leaving sessions, leave training, events, and competitions safely.
- Reduce stress and anxiety associated with getting home or collecting children at the end of training, competitions, or events.
- Ensure that everyone is informed and on the same page, fostering a sense of security and trust.
- Ensure that children and young people are more likely to have a positive experience, feeling safe and well cared for.

We will ensure that:

- No child under the age of 13 leaves training, events, or competitions without an appropriate parent, carer, family member or previously agreed adult.
- Children aged 13 and above leaving training, events, or competitions unsupervised must have received written consent.
- In no circumstances will a child be allowed to leave alone without written consent.
- The dispersal process is reviewed regularly to improve and make necessary adjustments.

Section D: Transporting children

It may be necessary for the transportation of children in a coach or team official car for away fixtures. Annual consent will be sought on the membership form.

We will ensure the following conditions are abided:

- ALL cars used are safe and roadworthy.
- ALL drivers are over 18, hold a full license for ≥ 2 years, and have appropriate insurance
- Drivers (to the best of our abilities) will be DBS checked.
- If a driver is needed at short notice and they do not have the appropriate clearance Team Captains are to (where appropriate) ensure juniors are not in the car and/or the Welfare Officer is made aware
- Team Captains will ensure all parents and carers are informed of journey details

Section E: Image and video usage

Pictures and or videos may be taken of matches, teams and training to use on the club website and social media platforms or in publicity and promotional materials. Annual consent will be sought on the membership form.

LDHC will ensure the following conditions are abided:



- Pictures and or videos are only taken by recognised adults known and trusted to the club such as parents or carers of players, team officials or agreed press associates.
- The people taking pictures will be made aware of the appropriateness of making them public.
- Any pictures and or videos are discussed and agreed with the opposing team.

Section F: First aid

- Where appropriate first aid for injuries or accidents will be administered at the pitch by trained first aiders. Annual consent will be sought on the membership form.
- All teams will have an adequately stocked first aid kit and keep an accident book in which all accidents or injuries requiring first aid will be recorded.
- The Club will keep a copy of this, and a copy will be given to the player receiving first aid or their parents or carers.

Section G:

Our safeguarding policy and procedures are mandatory for everyone involved in Lancaster Hockey Club.

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in safeguarding legislation or government guidance
- as required by England Hockey
- as a result of any significant changes or events.

Section F: Contact details

Lancaster Hockey Club Welfare Officers: Helen Gates 07720774231; Verity McMann 07763007099

Lancaster Hockey Club Captain: Nina Helme 07734822273

England Hockey Contact for Reporting Concerns:

Ethics and Welfare Manager (Lead for Safeguarding):

Tel: 01628 897500 / 07738 644171

Email: safeguarding@englandhockey.co.uk

Lancashire County Council, Emergency Duty Social Care Team: 0845 6021043

The emergency duty team can be contacted about any urgent social care need that occurs outside office hours (8 pm - 8 am Monday to Friday and any time during weekends and bank holidays).

Lancaster Police Station: 01524 63333