

Safeguarding Policy and Procedures



Rounders England is dedicated to ensuring that this document is as accurate and up to date as possible; if you feel that there is anything that could be changed please do not hesitate to let us know.

Acknowledgements

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Foreword

Rounders England is a growing organisation working towards increasing participation rates within the sport and is committed to creating greater opportunities for players, coaches and umpires across the country. Sport has a great influence on the way people live and can act as a tool to improve social inclusion and personal values of individuals, such as leadership and teamwork. To ensure that these qualities are enhanced and promoted throughout Rounders, it is important that all members of Rounders England and all participants place the welfare of themselves and others as a priority. This will ensure a safe and enjoyable environment for all.

This document is important to help recognise that young people participating in Rounders deserve to feel safe at all times and have a responsible adult they can contact if they have any concerns about their own safety, or that of others (within or outside Rounders). To ensure this, the policies within this document should be implemented throughout all organisations involved in Rounders. It should be read and understood by all to ensure that everyone knows and accepts their responsibility in relation to their duty of care to young people and vulnerable adults.

Rounders England holds the Advanced Standard, meeting the requirements of the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit, and is committed to an Action Plan to continually improve safeguarding processes. In the creation of this document it has been noted that it is not the responsibility of those individuals working in Rounders to determine if abuse has taken place, but it is their responsibility to act upon and report any concerns. This document should be used as a guide for how to act within any situations where concerns arise and includes contacts for relevant other organisations where information needs to be passed on.

Dave Dorrell
Chair, Rounders England

Definitions

The following definitions explain how specific terms are used within this document:

Position of trust: a position of trust refers to anyone who carries out work, paid or unpaid, on behalf of an agency and who has access to children and/or to privileged information about children as part of their work.

Vulnerable adults: A vulnerable adult is any person who is aged 18 or over, who needs care by another, has learning or physical disabilities, has any physical or mental illness, and/or has a reduction in their learning capacity.

Volunteer: an individual who works or provides a service for free. This includes anyone who gets paid expenses without profit. Many positions within local clubs and teams rely on the work of volunteers.

Parent/Carer/Guardian: A parent, carer or guardian refers to the person who cares for the child and has responsibility for them in their day to day life.

Responsible adult: A responsible adult is any member of a club or team who works in a voluntary capacity to improve the team or club, for example it may be a parent who helps the coach during training sessions to supervise the children. Responsible adults are similar to parents and carers as they work with a club/team in order to ensure that all participants are safe and they act in a role of supervision.

Coach/Instructor: A coach is anyone qualified to Rounders England standard, level 1 as assistant coach or level 2 as coach

Child/Young person: A person under the age of 18 years old

1: Policy Statement

1.1 Responsibilities

All Rounders England members:

- Accept responsibility to implement procedures to provide a duty of care for young people, safeguard their well-being and protect them from abuse;
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of young people;
- Recruit, train and supervise their employees and volunteers so as to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect young people from abuse, and reduce the risk of allegations against staff/volunteers;
- Require staff and volunteers to adopt and abide by the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, which incorporate Rounders England Codes of Conduct and Codes of Practice;
- Respond to any complaints about poor practice or allegations of abuse.

1.2 Principles and legislation

The guidance given in the procedures is based on the following principles and international legislation:

- The child's welfare is paramount;
- This policy recognises and builds on the legal and statutory definitions of a child;
- A young person is recognised as being under the age of 18 years (Children Act 1989 definition);
- An adult has the moral and statutory duty for the care of any child under the age of 18 under their supervision;
- All young people, whatever their age, culture, any disability they may have, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse;
- All incidents of poor practice or suspicions of poor practice and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately;
- All young people have the right to participate in Rounders in an enjoyable and safe environment;
- Young people have the right to expect appropriate support in accordance with their personal and social development with regard to their involvement in the sport of Rounders;
- It is the responsibility of the child protection experts and agencies to determine whether or not abuse has taken place but it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns;
- Confidentiality should be upheld in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Human Rights Act 2000
- The Children Acts 1989 & 2004
- The Protection of Children Act 1999 – all referenced to safeguarding checks.
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- What to do if you are worried a child is being abused 2006
- Working Together to Safeguard Children and Young People 2010

- The Human Rights Act 1998
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

Working in partnership with young people, their parents and other agencies is essential for the protection of young people. Rounders England member Clubs recognise the statutory responsibility of Children's Social Care Services to ensure the welfare of young people and will work with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and the Children's Social Care Services to comply with their procedures. Child protection is part of Safeguarding Children within the sport of Rounders and all those involved in working with children and young people in Rounders have a duty to ensure that they are:

- Allowed access to the sport in a way that is appropriate for their age and ability;
- Coached and trained by appropriately qualified staff;
- Not required to participate in so many competitions, or to attend training sessions, as to become a threat to their well being;
- Not subjected to any form of discriminatory abuse from any source;
- Not subjected to bullying or undue pressure from any source;
- Encouraged to achieve their full potential at all levels;
- Taught how to behave on and off the field
- Afforded respect, confidentiality and privacy in a competitive and training situation and any other Rounders environment

1.3 Implementation Plan

The purpose of Rounders England's safeguarding implementation plan is to safeguard the welfare of the participants in the game. The plan sets out how Rounders England implement the Standards for Safeguarding and Protecting Children in Sport, developed by the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit and endorsed by Sport England. More information about the standards can be found on the CPSU website at: www.thecpsu.org.uk

Rounders England and its members shall adopt the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures in accordance with the Child Protection Regulations.

1.4 Commitment

The Safeguarding Policy and Procedures apply to Rounders England, its members and all other affiliated bodies in England. These procedures also outline the disciplinary processes that will be followed by all individuals involved in Rounders under the jurisdiction of Rounders England at every level including participants, Officials, Activators, Coaches, Administrators, Club Officials, parents and spectators agree to comply with and sign up to the appropriate Rounders England Code of Conduct, these can be found in full in **Appendix 2**. All such individuals by participating or being involved in Rounders are deemed to have agreed to and as such recognise and adhere to the principles and responsibilities embodied in the Code.

1.5 Membership of Rounders England

Abiding by and signing up to these Policies and procedures is a condition of membership and is incorporated in the constitution of the member body.

1.6 Monitoring Procedures

Rounders England *Safeguarding Policy and Procedures* will be regularly monitored and a full policy review will take place every three years. The following situations may also require a review of the policy:

- Any changes in legislation;
- Any changes in governance of the sport;
- The learning from a significant case
- This document will be published on the Rounders England website and publicised in appropriate communications

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