

Policy Statement

North Mymms Bowls Club acknowledges the duty of care of safeguard and promote the welfare of all young people (defined as those under 18) and adults at risk and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and Bowls England requirements. - [Bowls England](#)

The Club believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents associated with the Club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others and that members feel safe, secure and respected while enjoying their time at our Club.

Physical and mental health, well-being, ability, disability and need for care and support can affect a person's resilience. We recognise that some people experience barriers, for example, to communication in raising concerns or seeking help. We recognise that all these factors can vary at different points in people's lives.

Policy Aims

This policy recognizes that the welfare and interests of young people and adults at risk are paramount in all circumstances. The purpose of this policy is to outline the duty and responsibility of members working on behalf of the Club in relation to Safeguarding Adults and Young people at risk. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all members have the right to be protected from harm, abuse and poor practice and to play bowls in an enjoyable and safe environment.

Principles

The Club is committed to helping everyone in bowls accept their responsibility to safeguard members at risk, from harm and abuse.

All adults and young people have the right to be safe from harm and must be able to live free from fear of abuse, neglect and exploitation.

All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

Members working with young people or adults at risk in bowls have a responsibility to report their concerns to a Club Safeguarding Officer.

Definition of an Adult or Young Person at Risk

An adult or young person is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.

This could include people with learning disabilities, mental health problems, older people and people with physical disability or impairment. It may also include victims of domestic abuse, hate crime and anti-social behaviour. The persons' need for additional support to protect themselves may be increased when complicated by additional factors, such as, physical frailty or chronic illness, sensory impairment, challenging behaviour, drugs or alcohol problems, social or emotional problems, poverty or homelessness.

Responsibilities and Communication

The NMBC Safeguarding Policy will be available to all members and participants.

The Club Safeguarding Officers have a responsibility to help ensure the safety and welfare of all adults and young people and for responding to any allegations, concerns or child protection incidents, passing information to the Local Authority or the appropriate National Governing Body Safeguarding Officer or informing the Club's Management Committee where relevant.

Parents have a responsibility to work together with the Club in implementing procedures and providing their children with the necessary information to keep themselves safe.

All Club members have a role and responsibility to report any safeguarding concerns, whether these concerns arise within bowls or outside.

Details of the Club Safeguarding Officers are displayed on the Clubhouse Notice Board and these individuals are here to listen, support and take appropriate action in response to any safeguarding concerns raised within our Club. They understand the sensitivity and confidentiality involved in these matters and will handle them with the utmost discretion and professionalism.

If you have any safeguarding concerns or questions, or if you need to report an incident, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of the Safeguarding Officers

The Club has a responsibility for ensuring that the policy and procedures are implemented, including referring any appropriate action to the National Governing Body.

Monitoring and Review

The policy will be reviewed every three years following approval or in response to significant new legislation.

The policy will be monitored in partnership with the National Governing Body and Bowling Development Alliance procedures.