

# Safeguarding and Protecting Young People at Local Level



Photograph: Star Sport

## Awareness:

- ▶ Raise awareness with all members and players within the club.
  - ▷ Put posters on the notice board.
  - ▷ Ensure all young players know they can talk to someone if they are worried.
  - ▷ Adopt policies within the club constitution on safeguarding or child protection; recruitment; anti-bullying and taking and use of photographic and recorded images.
  - ▷ Ensure that all club members, players, coaches, volunteers and parents/carers of junior members have a copy of the policies.
  - ▷ Ensure all coaches, staff and volunteers in positions of trust have agreed to abide by the Code of Ethics and behaviour.

## Appoint a Welfare Officer:

- ▶ Appoint and publicise the name of a Welfare Officer, who will be able to support and guide members, player and parents/carers on the issues and implementation of welfare and good practice. A Welfare Officer will enable concerns to be expressed and acted upon in confidence. A template Welfare Officer job description is available in Appendix 2.

## Policy:

- ▶ Adopt a policy for Safeguarding and Protecting Young People and make all members aware of its content.
- ▶ Establish a working group to support the ongoing development and implementation of the policy.
- ▶ Follow the England Hockey policy and guidelines on recruitment and ensure that all individuals working with children and young people are screened and are suitable.

## Procedure:

- ▶ Ensure appropriate consent forms are completed by parents/legal guardian for all young people under the age of 18. Consent should cover medical details, emergency contact details, transport and photography.
- ▶ Adopt clear guidelines for: transport; changing; competitions and events; dropping off and collecting young people at the club and supervision of young people, ensuring these are published to parents/carers, staff and volunteers.

## Training:

- ▶ Identify any training needs within the club and contact England Hockey to find out about workshops and opportunities for support.

## Put young people first:

- ▶ Promote a culture in which all young people are listened to and respected as individuals by:
  - ▷ putting the welfare of the young person first
  - ▷ challenging unacceptable behaviour
  - ▷ avoiding one to one situations with young players unsupervised
  - ▷ ensuring that hockey is fun and that fair play is promoted
  - ▷ providing confidential communication lines through which concerns can be expressed
  - ▷ reporting all concerns, allegations or suspicions of abuse
  - ▷ ensuring that all relevant members, staff and volunteers have, or know how to access, England Hockey's procedures for reporting concerns.

