



Pirton Sports and Social Club Ltd.

Safeguarding Policy

1. Purpose

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk from abuse or neglect.

This Policy defines how Pirton Sports and Social Club Ltd. operates to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk of abuse or neglect.

We have a duty of care and are committed to the protection and safety of everyone who enters our premises, including children, young people and adults at risk involved as visitors and/or as participants in all activities and events. We also have a duty to safeguard and support our volunteers and helpers.

2. Definitions

Children and young people are defined as those persons aged under 18 years old. This Policy will apply to all volunteers, contractors and helpers and will be used to support their work.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment;
- Preventing impairment of children's health and development;
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Adult at risk of abuse or neglect

For the purposes of this Policy, adult at risk refers to someone over 18 years old who, according to paragraph 14.2 or the Care Act 2014:

- Has care and support needs;
- Is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect;
- As a result of their care and support needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

If someone has care and support needs, but is not currently receiving care or support from a health or care service, they may still be an adult at risk.

3. Persons Affected

- All volunteers and helpers;
- All those attending any activity or service that is being delivered at Pirton Sports and Social Club;
- All visitors and contractors.

4. Policy Principles

There can be no excuses for not taking all reasonable action to protect adults at risk of abuse, exploitation, radicalisation and mistreatment. All citizens of the United Kingdom have their rights enshrined within the Human Rights Act 1998. People who are eligible to receive health and community care services may be additionally vulnerable to the violation of these rights by reason of disability, impairment, age or illness.

Pirton Sports and Social Club Ltd. through its Management Committee has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse. It recognises that:

- Under the Care Act 2014 it has a duty for the care and protection of adults who are at risk of abuse;
- It has responsibilities for the safety and care of children under the Children Act 1989 and 2004.

Pirton Sports and Social Club Ltd. is committed to promoting wellbeing and harm prevention; to responding effectively if concerns are raised and to the following principles:

- The welfare of the child, young person or adult at risk is paramount;
- All children, young people and adults at risk have the right to protection from abuse;
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility: for services to be effective each professional and organisation should play their full part, and
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse must be properly reported to the relevant internal and external authorities and be dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

Pirton Sports and Social Club Ltd. is aware of the work of their local safeguarding board/partnership and other support organisations on the development and implementation of procedures for the protection of adults vulnerable to abuse. The Policy is about stopping abuse where it is happening and preventing abuse where there is a risk that it may occur.

5. Procedures

- 5.1 All members of the Management Committee will have signed the Statement of Eligibility Form which includes a declaration that they have no convictions in relation to abuse.
- 5.2 All members of the Management Committee will familiarise themselves with safeguarding responsibilities and if necessary undertake training on safeguarding issues including whistleblowing where it is available and offered by their local safeguarding board/partnership or other local support organisation and ensure that they understand the principles set out in this Policy at 4 above.
- 5.3 All members of the Management Committee will work together to promote a culture that enables issues about safeguarding and promoting welfare to be addressed.
- 5.4 All members of the Management Committee, helpers or other volunteers will not have unsupervised access to children or adults at risk unless appropriately vetted.
- 5.5 The Management Committee will follow safe recruitment practices.
- 5.6 A member of the Management Committee will be appointed to be responsible for child and adult at risk safeguarding matters. This person will have responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the relevant safeguarding agency. Any suspicions, allegations or complaints concerning the person appointed will be dealt with by the Management Committee as a whole.

- 5.7 All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or adult at risk will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately. The appointed person will know who to contact and where to go for support and advice in relation to an allegation, a concern about the quality of care or practice or a complaint. An allegation may relate to a person who works with children or adult at risk who has:
- a. Behaved in a way that has harmed a child or adult at risk or may have harmed a child or adult at risk;
 - b. Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child or adult at risk; or
 - c. Behaved towards a child or children or adult at risk in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children.
- 5.8 The Management Committee will ensure that all hirers of the clubhouse and Recreation Ground have signed a hiring agreement. This will ensure all hirers who wish to use the facilities for activities which include children and adults at risk, other than for hire for private parties arranged for invited friends and family, to produce a copy of their Safeguarding Policy and evidence that they have carried out relevant checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS),
- 5.9 The Management Committee will carry out an annual review of this policy.

6. Contact Details

- PSSC Ltd. Responsible Person: Stephen Smith, Chairman PSSC
07721 746872 chairman@pirtonssc.co.uk
- Local Police: College Road, Hitchin, SG5 1JX. 01707 354000 or 999.
- Herts County Council Children's Services: 0300 123 4043
- NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000 or help@nspcc.org.uk
- Childline: 0800 1111 (textphone 0800 400 222) or www.childline.org.uk
- HCC Designated Safeguarding Officer (formerly LADO) 01992 555420
- Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership: 0300 123 4043
- Channel Panel - where risks of vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism are suspected or confirmed, a referral should be made to the PREVENT team at prevent@herts.pnn.police.uk
- HCC Prevent Programme Manager, Sophie Lawrence 07773 094897
sophie.lawrence@hertfordshire.gov.uk

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