



The England Hockey Board's (EHB) Policy on Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey

Guidance for Parents

This guidance has been produced specifically for parents whose children participate in hockey,

Hockey provides opportunities for enjoyment and achievement; it can develop qualities such as self esteem, leadership and teamwork, as well as physical benefits. Providing young people with a positive hockey experience means that they will be more likely to achieve their true potential.

Every young person has the right to have fun and to be safe and free from harm, whether training or playing for a local club or at a representative level. As a parent / legal guardian you should feel comfortable with the environment that your child is in and able to ask questions about the organisation, structure, people, policies and practices of that club or organisation.

Every individual and organisation within the Hockey Family has a role and responsibility to ensure the safety and welfare of young people.

This document is designed to provide parents/ legal guardians with information on good practice and ideas of questions to ask, and to ensure that both you and your child understand the way the club works, and your roles and responsibilities.

Terminology

Club: Throughout this document the term club is used as a general term to include junior sections and clubs with juniors playing in adult teams. All guidance can equally apply to county and regional associations.

Young Person: The term young person refers to anyone under the age of 18.

Parent: The term parent applies to the person or persons with legal responsibility for a young person.

Position of Trust

All adults who work with young people in hockey are in a position of trust which has been invested in them by parents, the sport, and the young person. This relationship can be described as one in which the adult is in a position of power and influence by virtue of their position.



ClubsFirst

ClubsFirst is the EHB's ClubMark accreditation. It outlines the minimum operating standards for clubs within hockey. The accreditation ensures that the club is committed to providing a safe, effective and child-friendly environment.

Clubs that have met this standard have adopted various policies and procedures in line with the EHB's Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey Policy.

These will include:

Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey Policy

The club will have formally adopted the EHB's Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey Policy, outlining procedures for dealing with possible abuse, disclosures or poor practice. You will be able to view this policy on request.

A named Welfare Officer

The club will have appointed a Welfare Officer, whose responsibility is primarily to promote good practice, to be the named point of contact for young people, parents, coaches and volunteers, and to understand the EHB's reporting procedures in case a concern is raised.

Insurance

The club has minimum public liability insurance.

Code of Ethics and Behaviour

The EHB's Code of Ethics and Behaviour is the ethical philosophy under which the sport operates. It describes the behaviour expected of all within the Hockey Family in England.

Questions to consider

Are the coaches qualified?

All coaches/leaders must hold an up-to-date EHB recognised Coaching/Leadership qualification which is appropriate to the level of activity being coached.

Leaders are required to hold a Leadership Qualification and Assistant coaches MUST hold a minimum of Level 1 hockey Coaching Assistant Award. Both should be under the supervision of a Level 2 coach (minimum).

A Level 2 Certificate in Coaching Hockey is required to lead a coaching session.

Do the coaches have the appropriate training?

All coaches/leaders working with young people are strongly advised to attend a scUK Safeguarding & Protecting Children workshop and hold a first aid certificate.

Do the coaches have valid insurance cover?

All coaches need to hold insurance which covers them for a minimum of £5million for public liability.

Are the coaches and club personnel suitable to work with young people?

All coaches and volunteers who regularly cares for, trains, supervises or is in sole charge of young people should have had a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check through the EHB every three years. This should be renewed.

What is the player/coach ratio?

Recommended minimum supervision ratios:

Children under 8 years old: 1:8

Children over 8 years old: 1:12

(With a minimum of two adults present, the second adult need not be a qualified coach.)

This ensures at least basic cover in the event of an emergency. Ratios may vary according to nature of the activity, age and experience of participants, venue, etc.

Does the club collect emergency contact details and medical information?

Clubs and coaches need to know contact details in case of an emergency and also need to be aware of any medication your child is taking or if they have any other particular needs. You should be asked to complete a parental consent form with this information, when you first attend an activity, but if not, inform the coach or organiser.

Your role as a parent/legal guardian

Always ensure that the young people you are responsible for have:

- ▶ the correct kit and equipment
- ▶ a suitable drink when required
- ▶ sun cream or waterproofs if needed
- ▶ medication if required.

Always ensure that you:

- ▶ arrange for your child to be dropped off and picked up promptly from the club and matches
- ▶ contact the club if you are running late to collect your child
- ▶ adhere to the rules of the club
- ▶ adhere to the Codes of Ethics & Behaviour conduct within the club, in particular the Parents' Code of Ethics & Behaviour
- ▶ Accept the guidance that coaches provide and umpires' decisions within matches
- ▶ use appropriate language at all times
- ▶ stay off the pitch during training and matches
- ▶ never force your child to participate
- ▶ provide emergency contact details and any relevant information about your child

including medical history, and update the club if it changes

- ▶ become involved in the club as much as possible. This provides your child with the support to enjoy their hockey
- ▶ support the coaches by ensuring your child enjoys their hockey and plays within the rules of the game
- ▶ encourage fair play
- ▶ encourage your child to recognise good performance, not just results.

What do I do if I am concerned?

The first contact is the Welfare Officer at the club.

- ▶ Ask to speak with them and explain your concerns.
- ▶ All concerns will be taken seriously and investigated.
- ▶ All concerns will be treated in the strictest confidence, with only the people who can help the situation becoming involved if required.

Use the space provided on the contacts details page to record the details of your child's club's welfare officer.

For further information, contact the EHB's Lead Child Welfare Officer on **01628 897500** or childwelfare@englandhockey.org or visit the website at www.englandhockey.co.uk/safe

Contact Details

Emergency

Please find below contact details in case of emergency. Use the spaces below to complete the details for your local contacts for Children's Social Care Department (Social Services) and Police.

Organisation	Contact Details	Website
NSPCC Helpline (24 hours)	0808 800 5000	www.nspcc.org.uk
EHB Lead Child Welfare Officer	T: 01628 897500, E: childwelfare@englandhockey.org Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre, Near Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 1RR	www.englandhockey.co.uk
Your Club Welfare Officer *		
Local Authority Children's Social Care Dept (Social Services) – ask for Duty Manager		www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/socialcare/safeguarding/lscb/
Police (Child Protection Team)	In an emergency call 999	
Samaritans (will hold Social Services Duty Officers' contact details in an emergency)	08457 90 90 90	www.samaritans.org

* please complete these details

Useful Contact Details – Help, support and advice

The following organisations offer specialist support and advice to young people, parents, individuals and organisations.

Organisation	Contact Details	Website	Additional Information
NSPCC – Child Protection in Sport Unit (CSPU)	T: 01162 34 7278, E: cpsu@nspcc.org.uk	www.thecpsu.org.uk	Sport specific advice on safeguarding and protecting young people
NSPCC – 24hr helpline	0808 800 5000	www.nspcc.org.uk	National Society for the Protection of Children
Victim Support	Helpline: 0845 3030 900	www.victimsupport.org.uk	Provide emotional support, information and practical advice for victims and witnesses
The British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy	0870 443 5252	www.bacp.co.uk	
Local Safeguarding Children's Board		www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/socialcare/safeguarding/lscb/	Education and training opportunity
Government Guidance		www.everychildmatters.gov.uk	Government guidance on safeguarding and protecting young people

Useful Contact Details – Advice for children and young people

Organisation	Contact Details	Website	Additional Information
NSPCC	0808 800 5000	www.thereforeme.com	Support and advice for 12-16-year-olds via the website
Don't hide it		www.donthideit.com	Aimed at young people to find out more about abuse and what to do about it
Childline	0800 1111	www.childline.org.uk	Free helpline for children and young people
Kidscape	0207 730 3300	www.kidscape.org.uk www.bullying.co.uk	Support on bullying



If you have any queries about how this guide affects you, please contact your Hockey Development Officer in the first instance. Contact details are available at www.englishockey.co.uk/contactus

The England Hockey Board's (EHB) Lead Child Welfare Officer can be contacted as follows:

Phone | 01628 897500

E-mail | childwelfare@englishockey.org

Post | England Hockey, Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre, Near Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 1RR

The EHB will make this document available in other formats on request.

www.englishockey.co.uk/safe