



OXFORD DOWNS CRICKET CLUB

Child Safeguarding & Protection Policy

Oxford Downs Cricket Club (ODCC) is committed to ensuring that all Children (persons under the age of 18) participating in cricket have a safe and positive experience.

This policy document is based on the guidelines set down in the ECB document Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children, which was updated in June 2013. All those involved with young people at ODCC are referred to this document and to the ECB website for further and better particulars. The ODCC has an appointed Welfare Officer to act as a focal point in these matters.

It is the responsibility of the parent to appoint an individual, or individuals, to take charge of the Young Person whilst the parent/guardian/older sibling is not present.

ODCC has a registration process where the parent/guardian by virtue of the information given and the payment made indicates that he/she gives their approval to the Young Person that may play cricket for the various teams within the Club

1. Introduction

All Young People regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability have the right;

- a) To be protected
- b) To be able to enjoy their cricket in a safe environment

Adults at ODCC are expected to;

Adhere to the standards set out in this document.

Provide a safe, positive and enjoyable cricketing experience for Young People.

Be familiar with this document.

There is a named ODCC Welfare Officer whose contact details are available in the fixture card and on the club website.

The General Committee for ODCC

Fully endorse the contents of this document.

Will ensure that any allegations or suspicions relating to Young People will be dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

2. Good Practice

Ensure that cricket is fun, enjoyable and fair play is promoted.

Treat all young people equally with respect and dignity.

The welfare of the Young Person comes before winning.

Work in an open environment both physically and emotionally e.g. encourage participation.

Give enthusiastic and constructive feedback.

Ensure proper records are kept and are at hand if required (including accident and injury).

Ensure physical contact should be appropriate and with the Young Persons permission.



Always follow-up allegations made by a young person in accordance with the guidelines in the ECB Policy.



Keep our insurances up to date.

Always inform a parent if:

You accidentally hurt a young person.

A young person seems distressed in some manner.

A young person becomes sexually aroused by your actions.

A young person misunderstands or misinterprets something you have done.

3. Poor Practice

Never

Spend time alone with young people away from others

Take Young People to your home where they will be alone with you

Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games

Share a room with a young person (tours etc)

Make sexually suggestive remarks to a young person.

Allow inappropriate language to be used unchallenged.

Do things of a personal nature for a young person that they should do themselves.

Transport Young People in your car alone.

Transport Young People if you are not insured, your car has not got a valid MOT or you are disqualified from driving (See Exclusion section)

4. ECB Welfare Incident form

This is part of the ECB Policy document and therefore can be obtained via the Welfare Officer and must be completed if any of the poor practice guidelines above are breached.

5. Changing facilities

There is a communal showering facility in all changing rooms at ODCC. If children under 18 do shower they should be supervised by their parent/sibling/guardian (see exclusions).

If young people do not wish to shower they should be put under no pressure to do so.

6. Guidance for parents

Parents should be made aware that;

ODCC encourage parents to get involved with the club.

If a parent/carer is late the club will:

Attempt to make contact with the parent/carer.

Wait with the young person (preferably accompanied by other adults).

Not send a child home with another person without prior permission.

Remind parents/carers re late collection.

As a last resort inform social services or the police.



7. Use of alcohol or illegal substances

Young people will not be allowed to drink alcohol, smoke or take illegal substances whilst at ODCC. Adults should not drink alcohol, smoke or take illegal substances while in charge of young persons.

8. Bullying and harassment

ODCC members will be able to recognise situations where this is occurring and is obviously at odds with our policy of providing an environment where young people can enjoy their cricket.

9. Visibility

ODCC ensure that all members and parents within the club are aware of this document and the obligations that go with it.

10. Exclusions

The following section details areas within the ECB guidelines that ODCC do not have the administrative resources to support.

Registering drivers: ECB recommends that all drivers who give transport to young children on behalf of the club complete a form proving details pertaining to the vehicle or the driver. Eg MOT and Insurance etc.

While we support this in principal ODCC cannot take on this role.

Umpires and Scorers: ECB recommends that as these have access to young people that ODCC should check their credentials. While ODCC appreciate the principals behind this stance it would be difficult to enforce but would ask our coaches to be vigilant that these people adhere to our guidelines e.g. being left alone with children. There is a form as part of the ECB guidelines that parents should fill out consenting to childrens' images being on the web-site and/or video.

Under 18's sometimes shower in those changing room which may also contain adults.

ODCC through the communication of this policy ensure that parents are aware of this and the fact that adults are aware of appropriate behaviour in such circumstances.

The ECB has a recruitment policy and a declaration form that has an administrative overhead that ODCC simply cannot meet. ODCC are grateful for any volunteers who come forward and will take measures to ensure that these volunteers are well trained in matters relating to the welfare of young persons.