

THE LYMINGTON CRICKET CLUB CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

Lymington Cricket Club aims to create an enjoyable environment for all children who take part in cricket and in the social activities after the match, as part of a Lymington Cricket Club fixture.

The Club emphasises that young people have the right to be safe, secure, and free from threat and to be treated with respect and for their concerns to be listened to and acted upon.

The Club will seek to ensure and respect that children have specific facilities designated for them, with adequate supervision.

The Club has procedures in place to help any young person who requests help and support on a confidential basis, in issues relating to Child Protection.

The Club will ensure that the Umpires, Scorers and other regular match officials for Club matches have signed the Club self-declaration form in relation to Child Protection and, before the start of the 2005 season, shall have undergone the CRB Enhanced Disclosure process.

The Club will ensure that any club members and match officials working with young people are aware of and apply the Club's Code of Conduct for Those Working with Children in Cricket.

The Club has a **Club Welfare Officer** who is specifically responsible for Child Protection issues. This person's name is **Tony Thorp** and his contact telephone number is 01590 641257 home or 07710 884762 mobile. You can email in confidence to antthorp@aol.com or write to 29 Grebe Close, Milford on Sea, Lymington, Hants SO41 0XA.

This Policy Statement is to be reviewed every three years.

Code of Conduct for Lymington Cricket Club - Players and Match Officials when involved with Children in Cricket

It is important for adults to understand their responsibilities with children. Lymington Cricket Club is concerned that specific advice is given concerning the behaviour of all umpires, scorers, players and match or other officials involved with the Club cricket.

Those working alongside children, as part of Lymington Cricket Club cricket activities should:

Respect the rights of every individual to participate in cricket.

Be professional and maintain the highest standards of personal behaviour at all times.

Only develop a relationship with players based on openness, honesty, mutual trust and respect.

Be aware of situations that can be misconstrued or manipulated by others. For example, if the umpire, scorer or player is alone with a child in the clubhouse, changing rooms or similar place, they are open to the possibility of allegations about their behaviour.

Be vigilant and aware of how actions can be misinterpreted. For example, adolescents can have strong emotional feelings toward some adults. Whilst these should not be dismissed and the youngster hurt as a result, neither should they be encouraged in any way.

Not to appear to favour or show interest in any one child.

Never discriminate on the grounds of age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity.

Be aware that physically handling a player, perhaps to help demonstrate or develop a game skill such as batting or bowling, can be misconstrued by an observer or even by the player. Whilst it may be good practice for coaches to support manually a child in order for him/her to perform a technique correctly, it would be most unusual for a Lymington Cricket Club match official or player – and is therefore strongly discouraged.

Never swear or use or respond to sexual innuendo.

Ensure that, as far as possible, they are not alone when involved with young players on an individual basis. If this is unavoidable, then the parents or Club officials should be made aware of the situation for the sake of the Lymington Cricket Club official. The presence of others is an insurance against allegations. All dealings with children should be conducted in a public environment in full view of others, in order that all behaviour can be observed.

On every possible occasion, ensure that another adult is always present when working or being involved with children.

Report any concerns within the area of Child Protection (physical, emotional, sexual, neglect or bullying and harassment), in confidence and without delay to a responsible person who can give advice and recommend any necessary action.

Not, at any time, discuss an allegation or suspicion with another person, other than the police, before a responsible person has been contacted.

When reporting an allegation or suspicion, make a written record of the information, including all relevant details. (This includes the nature of the allegation, background information of the parties involved, the period of time to which the allegation relates and the degree to which the information is known to be fact rather than opinion or hearsay).

At no time make comment to the local or national media. The Lymington Cricket Club Child Welfare Officer or Chairman of the Cricket Committee should be made aware of any media interest in relation to child protection. The Chairman of the General Committee will handle all media queries.

In the event of an allegation of improper behaviour being made, the personal conduct and professional behaviour of the adult will be very important evidence. For child abuse to take place, particularly sexual abuse, the child and the adult(s) will generally be alone and away from public view. The best defence, therefore, is to avoid all situations in which behaviour cannot be observed. If you have any queries regarding information in these Guidelines please contact: Tony Thorp 01590 641257 or 07710 884762 .

Poor Practice

All individuals working with Young People should avoid the following practice.

You should **NEVER**

- Spend time alone with Young People away from others
- Take Young People to your home where they will be alone with you
- Transport Young People in your car alone
- Transport Young People if you are an unregistered driver
- Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games
- Share a room with a Young Person
- Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate touching or physical abuse
- Allow Young People to use inappropriate language unchallenged
- Make sexually suggestive comments to a Young Person, even in fun
- Reduce a Young Person to tears as a form of control
- Allow allegations made by a Young Person to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon
- Do things of a personal nature for Young People that they can do for themselves

Guidelines on Changing

- Players aged 10 and under must be supervised at all times in changing rooms by **two** members of Staff of the same gender as the Players
- Adults working with young teams, including Volunteers, Coaches, Umpires or Staff, should not change or shower at the same time using the same facility as Young Players
- Mixed gender teams must have access to separate male and female changing rooms
- If Young Players (Under 16) play for Adult Teams, they and their Parents must be informed of the Club's policy on changing arrangements
- If Young People are uncomfortable changing or showering in public, no pressure should be placed on them to do so. Encourage them to do this at home
- If your Club has disabled players, involve them and their Carers in deciding how, if applicable, they wish to be assisted to change and ensure they provide full consent to any support or assistance required

UMPIRES AND SCORERS SELF-DECLARATION FORM

You have a right of access to information held on you and other rights under the Data Protection Act 1998.

Part A

Title: _____ **First Name:** _____ **Surname:** _____

Any other names by which you may have been known:

Address:

Post Code: _____ **Telephone Number[s]:** _____ - _____

Email address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Sex:** M / F _____

Current Employment: _____ **Position:** _____ **Start date:** _____

a.

b.

c.

I confirm that I have seen identification documents relating to this person, and that to the best of my ability these are accurate. I detail these documents as:

.....

Signature of Chairman: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Part B

Self-declaration (for completion by the Individual named in Part A)

Have you ever been convicted of any criminal offence or subject to a reprimand, warning or caution? YES / NO

If YES, please supply details:

Note: You are advised under the provisions of the rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 as amended by Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions Amendment) Order 1986 that you should declare all convictions including 'spent' convictions

Are you a person known to any social services department as being an actual or potential risk to children? YES / NO

If YES, please supply details:

IMPORTANT

I have read and understood the Lymington Cricket Club Child Protection Policy Statement and the Code of Conduct.

I hereby consent to the Lymington Cricket Club requiring that I undertake a CRB disclosure process, in accordance with national ECB and ACU&S policy.

Signed by the above-named individual _____

print name: _____ Date: _____

This form should be returned direct to the Chairman

RESPONDING TO A DISCLOSURE, SUSPICIONS OR ALLEGATIONS

Lymington Cricket Club has developed a system for individuals to report any concerns or issues that they may have relating to a Young Person at or during a Club match.

There may be any number of reasons that an individual finds it necessary to report a concern:

- In response to something a Young Person has said.
- In response to signs or suspicions of abuse.
- In response to allegations made against a member of the School staff.
- In response to allegations made about a Parent, Carer or someone not working within the sport.
- In response to bullying.
- In response to a breach of the code of conduct or poor practice.
- Observation of inappropriate behaviour.

Reporting Procedures to be used at a Lymington Cricket Club Match

- **Playing at an ECB Affiliated Club** – you must report your concerns or any information received to the Club Welfare Officer.
- **Playing at a Local Authority Facility** – you must inform the Sports Development Officer or the Facility Manager.

If an incident is reported under any of the above situations, ensure that your Chairman is subsequently [ie the same day or the next day] made aware of the situation. In the event that he is not available, you should inform the Lymington Cricket Club Child Welfare Officer by phone, fax or Email.

RESPONDING TO A DISCLOSURE

You always need to:

- Stay calm.
- Keep an open mind.
- Listen carefully to what is said and take the Young Person seriously.
- Find an appropriate early opportunity to explain that it is likely that the information will need to be shared with others – do not keep secrets.
- Ask questions for clarification only, and at all times avoid asking questions that suggest a particular answer.
- Reassure the Young Person that they have done the right thing by telling you.
- Tell them what you will do next and with whom you will share the information.
- Record in writing what was said using the Young Person's own words as soon as possible.
- Report the incident.

LIST OF CERTIFIED C.R.B. PERSONNEL

Certified

Mark Gannaway

David Gelling

Adrian Hunt

Chris Hunt

Bob Iles

Edward Malloy

Trevor Phillips

Steve Scott

Tony Thorp

Bubbling Under

Neill Denby

Barry Marriott

Chris Noble