

Safeguarding and Protecting Children

Child Protection Policy and Procedures

In May 2005, the Council of the BADMINTON England adopted a revised Child Protection Policy for badminton endorsing a document entitled “Child Protection Policy and Implementation Procedures in Badminton”. In membership of BADMINTON England you are required to assent to the principles embodied in this document.

Introduction

Badminton can and does have a very powerful and positive influence on people – especially young people. Not only can it provide opportunities for enjoyment and achievement; it can also develop valuable qualities such as self-esteem, leadership and teamwork. These positive effects can only take place if Badminton is in the right hands – in the hands of those who place the welfare of all young people first and adopt practices that support, protect and empower them.

The reality is that abuse does take place in sport and in some cases coaches and other trusted adults in sport have been convicted of abusing children. BADMINTON England recognises that despite all the benefits of participation, sport can provide easy access to children and present opportunities for an individual who wants to harm children. BADMINTON England accepts that the welfare and safety of young people and vulnerable adults is the responsibility of everyone, whether working in a professional or voluntary capacity. Every adult has a legal and moral responsibility to protect young people from abuse when involved in Badminton.

Regulation

1. All individuals at all levels involved in Badminton through BADMINTON England, must abide by BADMINTON England’s Child Protection Policy and the Code of Ethics and Conduct (‘the Code’) and all individuals, by participating or being involved in Badminton through BADMINTON England are deemed to have assented to and thereby adhere to the principles and responsibilities embodied in these documents.
2. Each and every constituent member of BADMINTON England including, without limitation, all clubs and leagues shall be responsible for the implementation of the Child Protection Policy and Procedures in Badminton in relation to their individual members.
3. Any act, statement or other behaviour that harms a child or group of children or poses a risk of harm to a child or group of children shall constitute conduct that is improper and thereby brings Badminton into disrepute. Such conduct will be dealt with, at the appropriate level, through the Disciplinary Procedure.

Responsibilities

BADMINTON England, its Members, Partners and other affiliate organisations will:

- accept the moral and legal responsibility to implement procedures to provide a duty of care for young people, safeguard their well-being and protect them from abuse
- respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of young people and vulnerable adults
- recruit, train and supervise its employees and volunteers so as to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect young people from abuse and themselves against allegations
- require staff/volunteers to adopt and abide by the BADMINTON England Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct and the Child Protection Policy and Procedures
- respond to all incidents of suspicious poor practice and allegations of abuse swiftly and appropriately.

It is not the responsibility of anyone working for BADMINTON England or affiliated organisations in any capacity, whether paid or voluntary, to decide whether or not child abuse is taking place or to investigate it. It is the responsibility of everyone in Badminton, however, to ensure that action is taken to ensure that a child is protected appropriately.

Criminal Records Bureau Checks

The Government has established the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and introduced a process whereby organisations providing opportunities or services for children and vulnerable adults can access information to assist in recruitment decisions.

BADMINTON England is a Registered Body with the CRB and is able to administer checks for people who require them for their position in badminton.

BADMINTON England requires all persons applying for positions that include working with children and young people to undertake a CRB Disclosure. From September 2007, all coaches on the BADMINTON England Coaching Register are required to have a CRB check through BADMINTON England.

BADMINTON England strongly recommends that this process extends to volunteers and everyone who has regular access to young people, for example, County and Club officers.

To obtain a CRB Disclosure Application Form please apply to the Development Department at Milton Keynes on development@badmintonengland.co.uk or 01908 268400.

Charges

Enhanced CRB Check - £36 for paid coaches and **FREE for volunteers**

Standard Check - £31

There is a handling charge to cover the cost of the administration of the checks, which is £15 for members of BADMINTON England and £30 for non-members. For BADMINTON England members this charge applies only for the first check and is free thereafter.

Please note that BADMINTON England are not able to accept CRB Disclosure certificates that have been carried out by other organisations. The CRB have ceased to offer a 'Portability' service, meaning that we are unable to be sure that we have received all of the information relevant to an individual check.

For further information about the CRB please visit the [CRB Website](#)

Child Welfare Officers

The Child Welfare Officer is a key role within Badminton. By designating people to this role, it can be ensured that it has someone specifically appointed to handle any child welfare, including child protection issues that may arise. BADMINTON England has a vision of a Child Welfare Officer in every county and junior club. Due to the nature of the position, prior to appointment, these people are required to undertake a Criminal Records Bureau check much in the same way that a coach or volunteer who intends working with children and young people would. This position is fundamental to ensuring that Child Welfare is central to the philosophy of the club or county.

Training

BADMINTON England recognises that checks are only part of the process to protect children from possible abuse. Appropriate training will enable individuals to recognise their responsibilities with regard to their own good practice and the reporting of suspected poor practice/concerns of possible abuse.

BADMINTON England recommends that all staff working with children must ensure that they have received child protection training appropriate to their role. BADMINTON England will ensure that staff have access to a full range of child protection training opportunities.

Whistle Blowing Statement

BADMINTON England is primarily concerned with the well being and safety of all its members and participants. BADMINTON England will fully support anyone who, in good faith and where he / she has reasonable grounds for doing so, reports his or her concern that a colleague is, or may be, abusing a child, or that a colleague's practice may be in breach of the BADMINTON England Code of Conduct.

Important Information on the Badminton England website

Link to the Badminton England website on Safeguarding and Protecting Children-
<http://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/text.asp?section=0001000100230015>

This includes:

- The Child Protection Policy
- Guidelines for photographic and recorded images of children and young people under the age of 18. This is important for people running Junior Competitions to read. (Appendix F).
- The Code of Conduct (Appendix G). This includes the: Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct for Coaches, Code of Conduct for Junior Members, Code of Conduct for Coaches and Helpers, Code of Conduct for Parents, Carers and Spectators.
- Disciplinary Procedure (Appendix I).
- Transport (Appendix K). This covers the responsibilities for transporting children and young people to training, competitions and other events.
- Travel Check List (Appendix L). This is a useful checklist to be used when arranging fixtures.
- Application Form for Posts (Template 1)
- Self Disclosure Form (Template 2). To be completed by all individuals applying for membership of the badminton England coaches register.
- Sample statement for the use of photographic and recorded images of children and young people under the age of 18 years (Template 3).
- Photographic and recorded images usage form (Template 4). For use by clubs.
- Photograph event registration form (Template 5). To be completed by anyone taking photographs or recording images at an event.
- Sample 'Parental Consent' form (Template 7). To be used by clubs to get parental consent for activities. This should be completed for every child or young person who attends a club and should be easily accessible at training sessions/events in case of injury or an incident.

Please take the opportunity to read these documents and implement the policies into your badminton club practices.

Gaye Jackson
Head of CPD and Education Partnerships
NHS North West
0161 625 7303 (PLEASE NOTE MY NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER)
gaye.jackson@northwest.nhs.uk
Floor 7 (open plan)
Workforce and Education Directorate
Gateway House
Piccadilly South
Manchester
M60 7LP

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