

For the purposes of this document :

- all references to “Club” or “The Club” refer to Driffield Rugby Union Football Club
 - “CB” means RFU Constituent Body
 - RFU Regulation 21 : Safeguarding applies, and provides further definitions to the terms used herein
 - the current Club Safeguarding Officer is named on the Club’s website
1. The Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children involved in the Club from harm. The Club adheres to the Rugby Football Union’s Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, practices and guidelines. The Club endorses and adopts the Policy Statement contained in that document and any successor policy.
 2. A child is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any rugby union activity. However, where a 17-year-old player is playing in the adult game it is essential that every reasonable precaution is taken to protect their safety and wellbeing.
 3. The key principles of the RFU Safeguarding Policy are that:
 - The welfare of the child is, and must always be, paramount to any other considerations
 - All participants regardless of age, gender, ability or disability, race, faith, culture, size, shape, language or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse or harm
 - All allegations or suspicions of abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly and appropriately
 - Working in partnership with other organisations, statutory agencies, parents, carers, children and young people is essential for the welfare of children
 - Children have a right to expect support, and personal and social development delivered by an appropriately recruited, vetted and managed in relation to their participation in rugby union, whether they are playing, volunteering or officiating in the community or professional areas of the sport
 4. The Club recognises that all children have the right to participate in sport in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment whilst at the same time being protected from abuse, neglect, harm, and poor practice. The Club recognises that this is the responsibility of everyone involved, in whatever capacity, at The Club.
 5. The Club will implement and comply with the RFU Code of Conduct and the Codes of Conduct for Coaches, Spectators and Officials as appropriate.
 6. Anyone witnessing or aware of an incident where the welfare of a child has been put at risk must, in the first instance, inform the Club Safeguarding Officer – their contact details are shown on The Club’s website. They will then inform the CB Safeguarding Manager and the RFU Safeguarding Team. If an incident involves the Club Safeguarding Officer, you should inform the Club Secretary (named on the Club’s website) and either the CB Safeguarding Manager or the RFU Safeguarding Team.
 7. All members of The Club who work with children in Regulated Activity must undertake an RFU Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check in accordance with RFU Regulation 21. Further, the Club

will ensure that anyone with access to personal information (children or adults) through the Club's use of the Game Management System (GMS) is subject to a DBS check.

8. The Club will ensure that all its members, whether they are coaches, parents, players or officials comply with the Best Practice Guidance as issued by the RFU. In summary, the following are NOT acceptable and will be treated seriously by the club and may result in disciplinary action being taken by the club, the CB or the RFU:
 - Working alone with a child
 - Consuming alcohol whilst responsible for children
 - Providing alcohol to children or allowing its supply
 - Smoking in the presence of children
 - Humiliating children
 - Inappropriate or unnecessary physical contact with a child
 - Participating in, or allowing, contact or physical games with children
 - Having an intimate or sexual relationship with any child developed as a result of being in a 'position of trust'
 - Making sexually explicit comments or sharing sexually explicit material

9. The Club manages the changing facilities and arranges for them to be supervised by two DBS-checked adults of the appropriate gender for the players using the facilities. The Club ensures that all its coaches, parents, officials and spectators are aware that adults must not change at the same time, using the same facilities as children.

10. The Club will review the GMS Club Training Report at the beginning of the season, and periodically through the season, to ensure that DBS checks are current, and renewed to ensure continued cover. The Club will ensure that its coaches and team managers will receive the support and training considered appropriate to their position and role. The RFU "Managing Challenging Behaviour" Policy has been adopted and made available to the club workforce, both voluntary and paid.

11. Any events held on The Club premises must comply with this Policy and, if appropriate, a Safeguarding Plan for the event should be discussed and circulated to those affected. Any tours, overseas or domestic, undertaken by The Club must comply with the relevant RFU Regulations and Guidance relating to tours.

12. The Club welcomes the taking of appropriate images of children and has developed guidance to enable suitable photographs to be taken celebrating the Core Values of the sport. The Club's policy statement on photography is contained in the MJ Coaches Handbook, available on The Club's website.

Adopted by The Executive Committee, as follows

Signed	Date	Review date
Chairman		September 2022