



The Bournemouth Lions Wheelchair Rugby Safeguarding Policy

Date Created: 19/01/2019

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Revision Date: Reviewed July 2021

Next Review Date: July 2022

1. Introduction

This document outlines **The Bournemouth Lions Wheelchair Rugby Safeguarding Policy** on identifying and responding to concerns regarding the safeguarding and protection of vulnerable adults and adults. This policy, with the associated procedures, provides guidance for all members who may come across concerns of this nature within the context of their involvement with **Bournemouth Lions Wheelchair Rugby (the Club)**.

The purpose of this policy statement is to support:

- young people, adults, vulnerable adults and people with disabilities who are involved with the **Club**
- all members of **The Club**
- other individuals, consultants and agencies contracted by **The Club**

2. The Club and Players

It is important within the activities conducted by **The Club**, that the safety and security of all members is important. When you are concerned about a child or vulnerable adult, please contact the Club **Well-being Officer**. If a vulnerable adult is in immediate danger you must call 999.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of young people, the disabled and vulnerable adult is paramount
- all members, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some adults are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- working in partnership with children, young people, vulnerable adult, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting welfare.
- keeping safe online, being aware of cyber bullying as well as being aware of any abusive language or behaviour towards yourself or to any other members of the club.

We will seek to keep our young people, adults and vulnerable adults safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated well-being officer
- developing safeguarding policies and procedures which reflect best practice
- using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know
- creating and maintaining **an anti-bullying environment** and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- sharing information about safeguarding best practice with children, their families, vulnerable adults, staff and volunteers via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made and have DBS checks in place
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- implementing a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our young people, vulnerable adults and adults
- staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- recording and storing information professionally and securely.

Abuse

- Abuse is the action taking place in a relationship where there is trust and this has been taken advantage of to cause harm or distress to a vulnerable or young person.
- Anyone around a vulnerable person can abuse them.

The Bournemouth Lions Wheelchair Rugby will be aware of types and signs of abuse which include:

Physical abuse

- Cuts
- Bruising
- Biting
- Slapping
- Misuse of medication
- Restraining someone
- Change in behaviour

Sexual abuse

- Rape
- Sexual Harassment
- Touching inappropriately
- Sexual Photography

Financial

- Fraud
- Internet scamming
- Coercion in relation to an adult's financial affairs
- Misuse of possessions or benefits

Psychological

- Emotional abuse
- Threatening behaviour
- Harassment
- Controlling behaviour
- Withdrawal of supportive networks
- Lack of sleep

- Poor self-esteem and lack of confidence

Organisational

- Lack of flexibility and choice for people using the service
- Inadequate staffing levels
- Dehydration
- Poor record keeping
- Public discussion of personal matters

Discriminatory Abuse

- Person appears withdrawn and isolated
- Expressions of anger, frustration, fear and anxiety
- Verbal abuse
- Exclusion of people from activities

Domestic Abuse

- Low self esteem
- Physical signs of abuse
- Verbal abuse in front of others
- Isolation

Neglect

- Ignoring medical, emotional or physical care needs
- Failure to provide access to health care and support
- Malnutrition
- Dirty clothes
- Take wrong dose of medication
- Untreated injuries
- Poor hygiene

Complaints

- If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of your account or dealings with **The Club**, we urge you to email to speak to Club Well-being Officer. Our objective is to resolve the vast majority of enquiries or complaints during your first contact with us. **Chantel Emery is The Bournemouth Lions Wheelchair Rugby Wellbeing Officer** who will listen to your complaint.
- We will protect you from making a complaint from a specific member of staff
- Complaints can also be made to **Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby (GBWR)**
<https://gbwr.org.uk>