

GREENOCK WANDERERS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB



Child Protection Policy 2023 to 2026

Revised January 2023

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Greenock Wanderers Rugby Football Club is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children in its care. It recognises the responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. For the purposes of this policy and associated procedures a child is someone under the age of 18 years.

Staff and volunteers will work together to embrace difference and diversity and respect the rights of children and young people.

The policy is based on the following principles:

- The welfare of children is the primary concern.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm and abuse.
- Child protection is everyone's responsibility.
- Children have the right to express views on all matters which affect them, should they wish to do so.
- Organisations shall work in partnership together with children and parents/carers to promote the welfare, health and development of children.

Greenock Wanderers Rugby Football Club will:

- Promote the health and welfare of children by providing opportunities to take part in rugby safely.
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of children.
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well-being of children and protect them from abuse.
- Recruit, train, support and supervise its staff, members and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children from abuse and to reduce risk to themselves.
- Require staff, members and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and these procedures.
- Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse of children in line with this Policy and these procedures as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- Observe guidelines issued by local Child Protection Committees for the protection of children.
- Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy and these procedures.

This Policy and these Procedures will be regularly reviewed:

- In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection of children or following any changes within Scottish Rugby.
- Following any issues or concerns raised about the protection of children within Scottish Rugby
- In all other circumstances, at least every three years.

ASSOCIATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A range of Policies have been developed and are available here

<https://www.scottishrugby.org/safeguarding/advice-for-clubs>

<https://www.scottishrugby.org/safeguarding/>

SCOTTISH RUGBY - SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Scottish Rugby Safeguarding Policy is attached below.

https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/sru-files/docs/1620993748_SR_childprotection_policy_2021.pdf

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Scottish Rugby Safeguarding Policy can be found at
[scottishrugby.org.uk/childprotection](https://www.scottishrugby.org.uk/childprotection)

and is applicable for any young person aged under 18.

GREENOCK WANDERERS SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Greenock Wanderers RFC acknowledges its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of all children in Greenock Wanderers from harm.

Greenock Wanderers RFC recognises that all children have the right to participate in rugby union in a safe, enjoyable and positive environment whilst at the same time being protected from abuse, neglect or poor practice.

Greenock Wanderers RFC confirms that it adheres to the Scottish Rugby Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, guidelines, and practices contained in that document and any successor policy.

Greenock Wanderers confirms that it will appoint a Child Protection Officer (CPO) at the club. Their details will be available within the clubhouse and on the club website. The CPO will undergo Safeguarding training as directed by Scottish Rugby.

Greenock Wanderers RFC agrees that all allegations or suspicions of abuse, neglect, harm or poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly and appropriately.

Greenock Wanderers RFC recognises that all children have the right to expect that their participation in rugby union will be supported and delivered by suitably recruited, vetted and managed staff, whether they are volunteering or officiating.

All members of Greenock Wanderers RFC who undertake regulated work must be member of the PVG Scheme with a Scheme Record Update if necessary.

Greenock Wanderers acknowledges the Disclosure Scotland referrals process and agrees to action a referral if required.

Greenock Wanderers agrees that any tours, overseas or domestic must comply with the relevant Scottish Rugby Regulations and Guidance relating to tours.

KEY CONTACTS

Greenock Wanderer RFC CPO is Samantha Irvine and they agree to be contacted with any concerns regarding child protection and safeguarding and will take appropriate action.

Contact Number: 07463 919 259. Email: samanthairvine87@gmail.com

Although matters relating to the welfare of children at Greenock Wanderers Rugby Club should ordinarily be referred in the first instance to the club CPO the Scottish Rugby Lead officer for Child Protection and Welfare may also be contacted for

support and advice on any child protection matter by any CPO, child, parent, staff member or volunteer at any time.

Key Contacts – SRU

Faye Henderson (Child Wellbeing & Protection Manager) - Tel : 0131 346 5056,
Mobile: 07976 279473

Scottish Rugby | Scottish Gas Murrayfield | Edinburgh | EH12 5PJ

Email: Faye.Henderson@sru.org.uk | Web: <https://scottishrugby.org/>

For any queries, advice or guidance on Child Protection matters you can contact, the Child Protection Team safeguarding@sru.org.uk . Telephone 0131 346 5000

Club Child Protection Officer

The CPO role is an important one and should cover the following broad areas:

Work with other member of the club to ensure that children enjoy a welcoming, safe, friendly and helpful environment

Ensure the club has a Child Protection / Safeguarding Policy that is available on the club website, available on request and understands the principles in the policy

CPO name and contact details are visible in the clubhouse, on the club website and that they are visible and approachable at the club (within reasonable parameters).

Complete Child Protection and Safeguarding Training within 6 months of their appointment.

CPO must be Members of the PVG Scheme.

CPO to manage the PVG Memberships within the club. Any person carrying out REGULATED WORK must have a PVG number which should be notified against the Youth Coach listed in SCRUMS. (details of the PVG process follow below)

CPO should keep a record of all PVG numbers.

Take responsibility for dealing with concerns, contacting the relevant people to take forward – either through Scottish Rugby Child Protection team, NSPCC/Children 1st or Police Scotland if required.



Risk Assessment Form – Greenock Wanderers Youth Section

Scottish Rugby have produced a series of guidelines for all clubs with regard to the Covid-19 pandemic. The guidelines are available at

<https://www.scottishrugby.org/clubs-and-schools/return-to-rugby>

These guidelines take precedence over the following generic guidelines developed for normal activity below.

Venue	Activity/event	Persons involved
Fort Matilda Playing Fields	Youth Rugby training	Participants aged 5 to 18, coaches

Risk prior to measures	Who may be harmed	Precautions	Any further actions/venue specific risk	Risk rating after measures
Hair, clothing or jewellery entangled in equipment	Players	Visual check of Players , they should wear appropriate clothing and shoes, remove jewellery and tie back long hair.	Coaches to check clothing is suitable and no jewellery	Very Low
Players colliding with each other or equipment / obstacles	Players	Designate safe area. Draw attention to obstacles. Control pace and numbers of people active in the space. Coach safe tackling and contact techniques.		Low

Collisions with non-Players	Players & Non-Players	Make Players aware of danger areas, tipping to falling. Signs/activities should be well controlled by session if required.	Use designated areas only	Very Low
Tipping persons falling into separate from their group	Players Players	Make Players aware of danger control slipping tripping and be conscious of their whereabouts at all times	All coaches to be identifiable to lost individuals	Very Low
Contact with foreign elements/objects		Inspect area prior to start of session, remove hazards/activities to be played in designated		Very Low
Balling players or projectiles	Players	Reasonably fit persons only and of qualified staff	Use qualified	Very Low
Use of stick of control of		Suitable for groups and activities to be delivered. Establishes spacing between each group.	First Aid provision	Very Low
Equipment in joint or park use or accidental striking of other people.	Participant	Discipline to ensure that Players potentially dangerous behaviour for weather conditions. Coaches to be		Very Low
Cold / wet / icy conditions	Players / Leaders/	Follow of appropriate at all times as per safety.	Assess quality and appropriateness of equipment.	Low
Muscular injury though excessive stress/strain conditions though incorrect exercise of activity.	Players / Leaders/	Use appropriate size/weight equipment. Follow appropriate guidelines and adhere to safe practices. Reinforce safety messages as they have on		Very Low
Showing a negative physical response to exercise – overly heavy	Players	Stop activities if players are showing signs of distress. Refer to player registration	First aid provision on day.	Very Low
Situations (Mowers, vehicles, cables, fertilizer)	Players / Leaders/ deliverers	Control areas where vehicles will be moving and use warning signage. .	Signs put up prior to start of event. Controls at car park	Low

Reviewed : ~~September 2023~~

Next Review ~~September 2024~~



Risk Assessment Form – Greenock Wanderers Youth Section

Venue Halls and rented venues	Activity/event Youth Rugby training	Persons involved Participants aged 5 to 18, coaches
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Risk prior to measures	Who may be harmed	Precautions	Any further actions/venue specific risk	Risk rating after measures
Lack of knowledge on facilities	Players & Non- Players	Identify safe exits , planned emergency procedures and obtain any relevant Risk Assessment from venue		Low
Hair, clothing or jewellery entangled in equipment	Players	Visual check of Players , they should wear appropriate clothing and shoes, remove jewellery and tie back long hair.	Coaches to check clothing is suitable and no jewellery	Very Low
Players colliding with each other or equipment / obstacles	Players	Designate safe area. Draw attention to obstacles. Control pace and numbers of people active in the space. Coach safe tackling and contact techniques.		Low
Collisions with non-Players	Players & Non- Players	Ensure area is free from other users, coaches to remain vigilant to those who may enter area. Halt session if required.	Use designated areas only	Very Low
Tripping and falling onto a hard surface	Players	Make Players aware of dangers e.g. slipping, tripping.		Low

Contact with foreign objects/objects from the playing surface	Players Players	Advise coaches to report of trespassing people to the appropriate authorities	All coaches to be identifiable to lost individuals	Very Low
Misuse or lack of control of equipment (e.g. hitting people)	Players	Games/activities to be played in designated areas. Establish safe playing areas of qualified staff.	coaches, code of conduct for Players	Very Low Very Low
Twist/turn of joint eg ankle, knee, wrist.	Participant	Discourage any negative activities to be engaged in by coaches.	First Aid provision	Low
Over exertion/overuse/excessive stress/strain. Injury through incorrect execution of activity.	Players/ Leaders/ deliverers	Coaches to be aware of player's age appropriate clothing appropriate size/weight. Coaches follow governing body guidelines and adhere to safety.	Assess quality and appropriateness of equipment.	Very Low
Hot / humid conditions	Players /	Provide clear safety messages wear appropriate clothing		
Showing a negative physical response to exercise – overly heavy breathing, dizziness etc.	Leaders/ Players	Observe players for signs of dehydration and overheating. Refer to player registration for key information. Players to be advised through parents to use screening where appropriate	First aid provision on day.	Very Low Very Low
Leaving venue	Players /	Ensure parents/guardians are at venue and visible to coaches. Players do not leave without a parent or guardian. Parents/guardian advised of requirement to notify coaches		Low

Reviewed : January 2021



Next Review September 2024