



Aldwinians Rugby Union Football Club

Audenshaw Park, Droylsden Road, Audenshaw, Manchester M34 5SN

0161 301 1001: info@aldwinians.co.uk : www.aldwinians.co.uk

Safeguarding Vulnerable People Policy

1. Aldwinians Rugby Union Football Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and vulnerable adults involved in Aldwinians Rugby Union Football Club from harm.
2. Aldwinians RFC confirms that it adheres to the Rugby Football Union's Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, practices and guidelines and endorses and adopts the Policy Statement contained in that document.
3. A child is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any rugby union activity. However, where a 17-year-old male player is playing in the adult game it is essential that every reasonable precaution is taken to ensure his safety and wellbeing are protected.
4. The Key Principles of the RFU Safeguarding Vulnerable People Policy are that:
 - The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult (as appropriate) 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 and young people.
 - 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.
5. Aldwinians RUFC recognises that all children have the right to participate in sport in a safe, positive, and enjoyable environment whilst at the same time being



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protected from abuse, neglect, harm, and poor practice. *Aldwinians RUFC recognises that this is the responsibility of everyone involved, in whatever capacity, at the club.*

6. Aldwinians RUFC will implement and comply with the RFU Code of Conduct and the Codes of Conduct for Coaches, Spectators and Officials as appropriate. Aldwinians RUFC will ensure its spectators, parents, members, and officials are all aware of and have accepted the club Photographic Policy as set out on the website.
7. **The Club Safeguarding Officer is Barry Rigby contact 07717 434543.** If you witness or are aware of an incident where the welfare of a child or vulnerable adult has been put at risk, you must in the first instance inform the Club Safeguarding Officer. They will then inform the CB Safeguarding Manager and the RFU Safeguarding Executive. If an incident involves the Club Safeguarding Officer, you should inform Ian Wilson (Trustee with responsibility for Safeguarding) or Kevin Turner-Hague (Chairman) and either the CB Safeguarding Manager or the RFU Safeguarding Executive.
8. All members of Aldwinians RUFC who have a regular supervisory contact with children or a management responsibility for those working with children must undertake a Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) check before they can be left with young person.
9. Aldwinians RUFC will ensure that all its members, whether they are coaches, parents, players, or officials will 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:
 1. Working alone with a child, children, vulnerable adult, or adults.
 2. Consuming alcohol whilst responsible for children or vulnerable adults.
 3. Providing alcohol to children or allowing its supply.
 4. Smoking in the presence of children.
 5. Humiliating children or vulnerable adults.
 6. Inappropriate or unnecessary physical contact with a child or vulnerable adult.
 7. Participating in, or allowing, contact or physical games with children or vulnerable adults.
 8. Having an intimate or sexual relationship with any child or vulnerable adult developed as a result of being in a 'position of trust.'



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9. Making sexually explicit comments or sharing sexually explicit material.

11. Aldwinians RUFC manages the changing facilities and arranges for them to be supervised by two adults RFU DBS checked of the appropriate gender for the players using the facilities. Aldwinians RUFC 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 or vulnerable adults. Only authorized persons will be allowed in the changing areas and escorted if needed.
12. Aldwinians RUFC 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” advice as part of the RFU Safeguarding Toolkit has been adopted and circulated amongst the club workforce both, voluntary and paid.
13. Any events held on Aldwinians RUFC premises must comply with this Policy and if appropriate a Safeguarding Plan should be discussed and circulated to those affected. Any tours, overseas or domestic, undertaken by Aldwinians RUFC must comply with the relevant RFU Regulations and Guidance relating to tours.
14. ALL COACHES must hold the relevant qualifications appropriate to the team’s needs. They must also be aware that their skills will need updating to keep themselves in line with the RFU guidelines. All coaches need to have attended the following: a play it safe course and an England Rugby Coaching Award. They must then be aware of attending the relevant updates.

Review date	Reviewed by	Changes
24/07/2021	D Hardy (Secretary)	Spelling and grammar changes. Changed reference to Aldwinians RFC to RUFC. Updated references to RFU publications.
27/11/2021	D Hardy (Secretary)	Changes to Safeguarding Officer and contact details
19/09/2022	D Hardy (Secretary)	Updated CSO & Trustee details.