

# CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

## DETAIL

**Penicuik 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, Club members 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 that affect them, should they wish to do so.
- All relevant organisations should work in partnership together with children and parents/carers to promote the welfare, health and development of children.

**Penicuik 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.

## REVIEW

This Policy and these Procedures will be reviewed regularly:

- 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. (*last reviewed September 2021*)

## KEY CONTACTS

### Penicuik Rugby Football Club CPO

In line with its obligations under the Scottish Rugby Participation agreement a Child Protection Officer (CPO) has been appointed to co-ordinate child protection and welfare on behalf of **Penicuik Rugby Football Club** and to provide a main point of contact for staff, club members and volunteers, parents and children in need of support, advice or training or if they need to report a concern.

#### **Penicuik Rugby Football Club CPO – Greg Borthwick**

2 Pentland Avenue,  
Gowkshill,  
Gorebridge,  
EH23 4PG

Tel: 07590 106889 (mobile)

Email: [cpo@penicuikrugby.org](mailto:cpo@penicuikrugby.org)

In addition, the club has also appointed an Assistant Child Protection Officer who can be contacted should the CPO not be available.

#### **Penicuik Rugby Football Club Assistant CPO – Andy Law**

6, Rullion Green Grove  
Penicuik  
Midlothian  
EH26 0RX

Tel: 01968 675769 (home)

Tel: 0131 651 9154 (work)

Tel: 07724 146828 (mobile)

Email: [andy@sportsdaft.co.uk](mailto:andy@sportsdaft.co.uk)

### Scottish Rugby Lead Officer for Child Protection and Welfare

Although matters relating to the welfare of children at **Penicuik Rugby Football 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, club member or volunteer at any time.

#### **Scottish Rugby Lead Child Protection Officer – Karen Burnett**

Murrayfield Stadium  
Edinburgh  
EH12 5PJ

Tel: 0131 346 5000 (switchboard)

Tel: 0131 346 5168 (direct)

Tel: 07764 772245 (mobile)

Email: [safeguarding@sru.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@sru.org.uk)

### Governance Administrator – PVG issues

Scottish Rugby acts as the umbrella body for the purposes of processing applications for the disclosure check of volunteers working with children at rugby clubs in Scotland. Accordingly, a PVG administrator has been appointed to process applications for club volunteers and to advise and support Club Child Protection officers on matters relating to the PVG scheme and the safeguarding of children and vulnerable individuals within rugby in Scotland

### **Safeguarding Administrator – Faye Henderson**

Murrayfield Stadium  
Edinburgh  
EH12 5PJ

Tel: 0131 346 5000 (switchboard)  
Tel: 0131 346 5056 (direct)  
Tel: 07976 279473 (mobile)

Email: [faye.henderson@sru.org.uk](mailto:faye.henderson@sru.org.uk)

### **Local Statutory Agencies**

Situations where the immediate safety of a child and/or children is a concern should be reported without delay to the appropriate statutory agency – the local police and/or social services child protection team.

### **Children and Families services – Midlothian Council**

Midlothian Children and Families Centre  
7 Eskdail Court  
Dalkeith  
Midlothian  
EH22 1AG

Tel: 0131 271 3413

Email: [cfreferrals@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:cfreferrals@midlothian.gov.uk)

### **Emergency Social Work services (out of hours) – Midlothian Council**

Tel: 0800 731 6969

### **Police Public Protection Unit**

Lothian and Borders Police  
Dalkeith Police Station  
Dalkeith

Tel: 0131 654 5528