



SCOTTISH RUGBY - SAFEGUARDING POLICY

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Scottish Rugby Safeguarding Policy is applicable for any young person aged under 18 and the guidance documents can be found at <https://www.scottishrugby.org/safeguarding/>

Gordonian Rugby Club Safeguarding Policy

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

Gordonian 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.

Gordonian 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.

Gordonian RFC 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.

The Gordonian RFC CPO is **Craig McEwan** and they agree to be contacted with any concerns regarding child protection and safeguarding and will take appropriate action.

CPO contact Email: **gordonianpelicanscpo@gmail.com**

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Gordonian 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.

Gordonian 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 Gordonian RFC who undertake regulated work must be a member of the PVG Scheme with a Scheme Record Update if necessary.

Gordonian RFC acknowledges the Disclosure Scotland referrals process and agrees to action a referral if required.

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

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Gordonian 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.

Gordonian 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 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.

Last reviewed: 26/04/2021