



Safeguarding

What do I do if I have a concern?

Players; parents; friends; volunteers; coaches; visitors; all members of staff; officials; members of the public.

Safeguarding is everyone's Responsibility

NOT RESPONDING TO A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN IS NOT AN OPTION.

Safeguarding children and adults at risk requires everyone to be committed to the highest possible standards of openness, integrity and accountability. As a club, we are committed to encouraging and maintaining a culture where people feel able to raise a genuine safeguarding concern and are confident that it will be taken seriously.

If **you** feel a child or an adult is in immediate danger or risk of harm please contact the police immediately by calling 999.

If you have a concern but the child or adult at risk is not in immediate danger immediately contact our Welfare Officer: **



Margaret Blamey 07548 172897
m_blamey@yahoo.co.uk

**The Club Welfare Officer will pass the details of the concern on to the LTA Safeguarding Team at the earliest opportunity and the relevant local authority and the police will be contacted, where appropriate.

If, however, you do not feel comfortable raising a concern with the Club Welfare Officer, please contact the LTA Safeguarding Team directly on 020 8487 7000, Jean Hargreaves from the Croquet Association on 0161 792 4694, the Local Authority Designated Officer (*LADO) or the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000.

Information to include when raising a concern

You should provide as much information as possible regarding the incident or circumstance which has given rise to the concern, including, where possible:

Name/s and contact details;
date, time and location of incident/circumstance

name/s of any individuals involved;
and whether any witnesses were present.

What happens next?

All concerns raised about the well-being of a child or an adult at risk will be taken seriously and every effort will be made to deal with the concern fairly, quickly and proportionately.

a) Where a child or adult at risk is thought to be in immediate danger or risk of harm, the police should be contacted by calling 999.

b) If the concern is that a member of staff or a volunteer has or may have;

- behaved in a way that has or might have harmed a child or an adult at risk;
- committed a criminal offence against or involving a child or an adult at risk; and/or
- behaved in a way that indicates that he/she would or might pose a risk of harm to children or adults at risk,

the Club Welfare Officer (or other individual notified in accordance with this policy) will contact the LTA Safeguarding Team and the Local Authority Designated Officer (*LADO) or the Croquet Association to discuss how the allegation should be investigated.

c) If the concern does not fall into one of the three categories set out in b) above or, after discussing the concern with the *LADO or other appropriate statutory agency, it is agreed that the matter should be dealt with in accordance with the club's internal processes, the club will consult with the LTA or Croquet Safeguarding Team to determine what action should be taken.

d) If the concern is that the club has not followed appropriate safeguarding procedures or has not followed up with appropriate statutory agencies where a concern about the well-being of a child or an adult at risk persists, you should contact the LTA or Croquet Safeguarding Team and the *LADO.

If you still have concerns and wish to speak to someone outside of the club, the LTA or Croquet Association, the NSPCC [Whistleblowing](#) advice line: 0800 028 0285; help@nspcc.org.uk should be contacted.

Confidentiality and Support

All concerns raised will be treated in confidence.

- The club will do its best to protect the identity of any person raising a concern if they do not want their name to be disclosed.
- It must be appreciated that the investigation process may reveal the source of the information and a statement may be required as part of the evidence.
- Depending on the nature of the concern raised and the subsequent action taken, where possible, the [whistle blower](#) will be kept informed of the progress of the investigation and advised of the outcome.
- All staff/volunteers involved in any related investigations must maintain confidentiality during and after the conclusion.
- The club will take steps to minimise any difficulties and provide appropriate support and advice to staff/volunteers passing on concerns.
- All involved will attempt to ensure that any allegation is dealt with fairly, quickly, proportionately and consistently in a way that provides effective protection for the child and at the same time supports the person who is subject to the allegation and the person bringing the concern to the attention of the club.

The club will not tolerate any harassment or victimisation of (including informal pressures) and will take appropriate action to protect [whistle blowers](#) when they raise a concern in good faith.

Organisations who can provide support include: General Practitioner Mind: www.mind.org.uk
*LADO Telephone: 01983 823723 Email: lado@iow.gov.uk Samaritans: www.samaritans.org
Sporting Chance: www.sportingchanceclinic.com Welfare Officer Margaret Blamey: 07548 172897