



NELSON CRICKET CLUB

Safeguarding Policy 2026

Policy Statement

Nelson Cricket Club is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk. We recognise our duty of care to ensure that all participants can enjoy cricket in a safe, positive, and inclusive environment. This policy adopts the principles set out by the ECB Safe Hands framework and applies to all club activities.

Key Principles

- Safeguarding is **everyone's** responsibility
- The welfare of the child is paramount
- All children have the right to protection from harm
- All concerns will be taken seriously and responded to promptly
- Working in partnership with parents and external agencies is essential

Roles and Responsibilities

The Club Committee has overall responsibility for safeguarding. The designated Club Safeguarding Officer (Nicolle Bradley) will act as the first point of contact for all concerns. All coaches, volunteers, and members are required to adhere to safeguarding standards and codes of conduct at all times.

Safer Recruitment

The club will ensure that all individuals working with children are appropriately vetted and trained. This includes DBS checks, safeguarding training, and clear role descriptions. No individual will have unsupervised access to children without appropriate clearance.

Good Practice

- Always work in an open and transparent environment

- Treat all participants with respect and dignity
- Maintain appropriate boundaries at all times
- Ensure all activities are age-appropriate and safe
- Encourage a positive and inclusive culture

Poor Practice and Abuse

The club will not tolerate any form of abuse or poor practice. This includes physical, emotional, sexual abuse, neglect, bullying, or discrimination. Any concerns or allegations will be taken seriously and handled in accordance with safeguarding procedures.

Reporting Concerns

All safeguarding concerns must be reported immediately to the Club Safeguarding Officer. If a child is in immediate danger, emergency services must be contacted without delay. Concerns may also be referred to the ECB Safeguarding Team or statutory agencies where appropriate. Members, coaches and volunteers must refer to the Reporting Procedure.

Changing Facilities

The club is committed to ensuring safe use of changing facilities. Adults and children must not share facilities at the same time without appropriate safeguards. Mobile phones and recording devices are strictly prohibited in these areas.

Transport

Transport arrangements must prioritise the safety of children. Parental consent is required, and wherever possible, children should not be transported alone by a single adult.

Online Safety

The club recognises the importance of digital safeguarding. Communication with children must be appropriate, transparent, and include parents. The use of personal messaging between adults and juniors is not permitted.

Safeguarding Women and Girls

The club is committed to creating a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for women and girls. Any form of harassment, discrimination, or inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated and will be addressed promptly.

Anti-Bullying

Bullying in any form is unacceptable. The club will take all incidents seriously and respond appropriately to ensure a safe environment for all participants.

Equality and Inclusion

The club is committed to equality of opportunity and will not tolerate discrimination on any grounds.

We aim to make cricket accessible and welcoming for all members of the community.

Alcohol and Substances

Adults responsible for children must not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Under 18s are strictly prohibited from consuming alcohol, smoking, or using illegal substances.

Late Collection

In the event of late collection, the club will ensure the child is supervised by at least two responsible adults and will attempt to contact parents or guardians immediately.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or following any safeguarding incident to ensure it remains up to date and effective.

Next review date: April 2027