



Old Penarthians RFC Club Safeguarding Policy Statement

1. Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children (U18) and vulnerable adults involved in our rugby club from harm.
2. Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club confirms that it adheres to the Welsh Rugby Union's (WRU) Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, practices and guidelines, and endorse and adopt the Policy Statement contained in that document and any successor policy. The current WRU Safeguarding policy is available from the Club Safeguarding Officer. This policy is available as a PDF document that can be downloaded from the following link.

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/8qzbpe5nuvuzztmyuq7g3/ADDXPHsUmJpCIT6GK_Blyd0?rlkey=rpi9bf02op4y96m06w92wc7y9&st=sffqeda3&dl=0.

Once the club website is live (awaiting new WRU club pages to be set up) this will be added as a downloadable document to the website.

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 Core Principles of the WRU Safeguarding Policy are :
 - Listening to children and respecting them.
 - Appointing a designated national governing body safeguarding lead for strategic matters.
 - Appointing a designated national governing body safeguarding lead for operational matters.
 - Working with Club Safeguarding Officers to develop safe and inclusive environments with the aim of developing a safeguarding culture within the game in Wales.
 - Appointing a Board Champion who takes responsibility for safeguarding at the highest level in the organisation.
 - Working with the Independent Safeguarding Advisory Group to provide external scrutiny and quality assurance, through a review process in relation to the safe recruitment process.
 - Safeguarding and protecting all children and young people through the implementation of robust safer recruitment practices.
 - Identifying and rejecting applicants who are unsuitable to work with children and young people.
 - Responding to concerns about the suitability of applicants during the recruitment process.
 - Responding to concerns about the suitability of employees and volunteers once they have begun their role. Ensuring all new staff participate in an induction which includes child protection.
 - Reviewing the WRU Safeguarding Policy as and when required or at a minimum on a three-year cycle.



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5. Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club recognises that all children have the right to participate in sport in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment whilst at the same time being protected from abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice.

Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club RFC recognises that this is the responsibility of everyone involved, in whatever capacity, at the club.

6. Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club will implement and comply with the WRU Code of Conduct and the Codes of Conduct for Coaches, Spectators and Officials as appropriate.
7. The Club Safeguarding Officer is Ian Leek (07596 326878 – sharkbait.icl+oldpens@gmail.com). If you witness or are aware of an incident where the welfare of a child has been put at risk you must, in the first instance, inform the Club Safeguarding Officer. They will then inform the WRU Safeguarding Manager and the WRU Safeguarding Team. If an incident involves the Club Safeguarding Officer you should inform Club Secretary, Mr. Robert Crimp and either the WRU Safeguarding Manager or the WRU Safeguarding Team.
8. All members of Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club who work with children in Regulated Activity must undertake an WRU Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check in accordance with the current WRU Safeguarding Policy.
9. Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club 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 WRU. 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 or the WRU:
 - Working alone with a child.
 - Consuming alcohol whilst responsible for children.
 - Providing alcohol to children or allowing its supply.
 - Smoking in the presence of children.
 - Humiliating children.
 - Inappropriate or unnecessary physical contact with a child.
 - Participating in, or allowing, contact or physical games with children.
 - Having an intimate or sexual relationship with any child developed as a result of being in a 'position of trust.'
 - Making sexually explicit comments or sharing sexually explicit material.
10. Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club manages the changing facilities and arranges for them to be supervised by two DBS checked adults of the appropriate gender for the players using the facilities (for each appropriate age group). Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club 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.



Old Penarthians RFC Club Safeguarding Policy Statement

- 11.** Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club will ensure that its coaches, first aiders and team managers will receive the support and training considered appropriate to their position and role.
- 12.** Any events held by the Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club premises for children or vulnerable adults 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 Old Penarthians Rugby Football Club must comply with the relevant WRU Regulations and Guidance relating to tours.

This is adopted in accordance with the club constitution.

SignedPosition.....

Date