

SUFFOLK COASTAL REGION POLICY STATEMENT AND GUIDELINES ON SAFEGUARDING

What is Safeguarding

Safeguarding refers to the process of protecting the health, wellbeing and human rights of children and vulnerable adults, enabling them to participate in Petanque safely and from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and to reduce risks.

The following will endeavour to provide Suffolk Coastal Region's (SCR) Safeguarding principles to be observed by all members

Suffolk Coastal Region (SCR) has a duty of care and is committed to promoting the safety and welfare of junior members and vulnerable adults in accordance with the Petanque England (formerly EPA) Safeguarding and Policy Statements incorporating all programmes and competitions run by SCR.

Within this statement the SCR will endeavour to minimise risk and deliver a positive playing/social experience and address all safeguarding concerns and disclosures.

This statement is applicable to ALL volunteers, SCR Committee members, Coaches and all other users and visitors to Clubs and involvement in SCR events, in line with Petanque England (PE) safeguarding policy and procedures.

SCR will ensure advice, guidance and support is available through the SCR Regional Management Committee and in their absence, by the SCR Chairman.

SCR Regional Management Committee will have responsibility for the implementation of Safeguarding, Code of Conduct and Reporting procedures

The SCR Regional Management Committee will have overall accountability for the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy

SCR Regional Management Committee will have responsibility for Updating this Policy when necessary.

All Members of the SCR are required to adhere to the Code of Conduct for Players or non- members taking part in any form of play and/or events.

All members should make themselves familiar with the social media/photography guidelines as this affect ALL who use mobile phones for photography and video purposes. PERMISSION IS REQUIRED!!

Reporting safeguarding disclosures/concerns

An individual who is told/made aware of concerns/disclosures is responsible for reporting them to the Safeguarding Officer unless someone is in immediate danger then the Team Captain/Police should be informed.

SCR Regional Management Committee are responsible for assessing the situation/s and follow up in liaison with the Club concerned.

Depending on the concerns/disclosure, referral may progress to the Police, Local Authority (children and families, or Local Authority Adult Services.

The SCR Regional Management Committee will be responsible to assess concerns/disclosures about members of the SCR committee, Coaches or Umpires and if appropriate refer on to the Police and/or the PE Safeguarding Officer who will then decide if action should be taken

Breaches of the Safeguarding Policy and failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, Termination of current role/roles, ban on playing petanque in Suffolk and informing the PE safeguarding officer.

The SCR are committed to the highest possible standards of openness, and accountability and integrity, when assessing/investigating. As an Association we are also committed to encouraging and maintaining a culture where people feel safe and able to raise genuine concerns regarding Safeguarding and that their concerns be treated with the highest confidentiality where possible. If direct harm is caused to a child or vulnerable adult the information will be shared with the Police.

How to raise concerns

If a child or vulnerable adult is in immediate danger the Police should be contacted by ringing 999

Where no immediate danger is present then concerns should be raised either to the Team Captain and SCR Regional Management Committee

When raising concerns, the following should be included:

As much information as possible about the situation

The name and address or club of the person concerned

Date and time of the situation being reported and location

Names of any other witness/es

Where possible the SCR safeguarding disclosure/incident form should be completed

Empowerment

This is about people being in a supported environment encouraged to make their own decisions and giving informed consent. It is about conveying what abuse is and ensuring that children and vulnerable adults understand what they can do to keep themselves safe. They can speak to the Police, or a person with whom they feel comfortable.

Contact details for SCR Regional Management Committee officer can be found on SCPA website under details of Committee members.

ALL INFORMATION ON SAFEGUARDING ISSUES CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCPA WEBSITE.

PLEASE READ THEM AS IT MAY AFFECT YOU!

NB

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONES RESPONSIBILITY. NOT RESPONDING TO THESE UNDER THE GUIDELINES IS NOT AN OPTION