

Rose Hill Junior Football Club

Safeguarding Policy

- 1 Rose Hill Junior Football Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all members. A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any Club football activity. We subscribe to The Football Association's Safeguarding Children - Policy and Procedures and endorse and adopt the Policy Statement contained in that document.
- 2 The key principles of The FA Safeguarding Children Policy are that:
 - 1 The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration
 - 2 All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation
 - 3 All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
 - 4 Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents/carers is essential.

We acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse.

Rose Hill Junior Football Club recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in our club.

- 3 Rose Hill Junior Football Club has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. It is noted and accepted that The Football Association's Child Protection Regulation (see The FA Handbook) applies to everyone in football whether in a paid or voluntary capacity. This means whether you are a volunteer, match official, helper on club tours, football coach, club official or medical staff.
- 4 We endorse and adopt The FA's Responsible Recruitment guidelines for recruiting volunteers and we will:
 - 1 Develop a role profile
 - 2 Request identification documents
 - 3 As a minimum meet and chat with the applicant(s) and where possible conduct interviews before appointing
 - 4 Request and follow up with two references before appointing
 - 5 Require an FA CRB Unit Enhanced Disclosure where appropriate in line with FA guidelines.

All current Rose Hill Junior Football Club members who are regularly caring for, supervising, training or being in sole charge of children and young people will be required to complete a CRB Enhanced Disclosure via The FA CRB Unit. If there are concerns regarding the appropriateness of an individual who is already involved or who has approached us to become part of Rose Hill Junior Football Club guidance will be sought from The Football Association. It is noted and accepted that The FA will consider the relevance and significance of the information obtained via The FA CRB Unit Enhanced CRB Disclosure and that all decisions will be made in the best interests of children and young people. It is accepted that The FA aims to prevent people with a history of relevant and significant offending from having contact with children or young people and the opportunity to influence policies or practice with children or young people. This is to prevent direct sexual or physical harm to children and to minimise the risk of 'grooming' within football.

- 5 Rose Hill Junior Football Club supports The FA's Whistle blowing Policy*. Any adult or young person with concerns about a colleague can 'whistle blow' by contacting The FA Child Protection Team on 0207 745 4787, by writing to The FA Case Manager at The Football Association, 25 Soho Square, W1D 4FA, or alternatively by going direct to the Police, Children's Services or the NSPCC.

Rose Hill Junior Football Club encourages everyone to know about it and utilise it if necessary.

- 6 Rose Hill Junior Football Club has appointed a Club Welfare Officer (CWO) in line with The FA's role profile and required completion of the Safeguarding Children and Welfare Officers Workshop. The post holder will be involved with Welfare Officer Training provided by The FA and/or CFA. The CWO is the first point of contact for all Club committee members regarding concerns about the welfare of any child or young person. The CWO will liaise directly with the CFA Welfare Officer and will be familiar with the

procedures for referring any concerns. They will also play a proactive role in increasing awareness of Respect, poor practice and abuse amongst their Club members.

- 7 We acknowledge and endorse The FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable in our league. If bullying does occur, all players or parents/carers should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly. Incidents need to be reported to the CWO or alternatively, in cases of serious bullying, we may contact the CFA Welfare Officer.
- 8 Respect codes of conduct for Players, Parents/Spectators, Officials and Coaches have been implemented by Rose Hill Junior Football Club. In order to validate these Respect codes of conduct the Club has clear actions it will take regarding repeated or serious misconduct at Club level and acknowledges the possibility of potential sanctions which may be implemented by the CFA in more serious circumstances. All registering members will be required to adopt the Respect codes.
- 9 Reporting your concerns about the welfare of a child or young person -

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about a child it is important that you report your concerns - no action is not an option.

If you are worried about a child then you need to report your concerns to the CWO

If the issue is one of poor practice they will either: -deal with the matter themselves or seek advice from the CFA Welfare Officer

If the concern is more serious - possible child abuse - they will, where possible, contact the CFA Welfare Officer first, then immediately contact the Police or Children's Services.

If the child needs immediate medical treatment take them to a hospital or call an ambulance and tell them this is a child protection concern. Let your CFA Welfare Officer know what action you have taken

10 If at any time you are not able to contact your CWO or the matter is serious then you can either:

- contact your CFA Welfare Officer directly or call The FA/NSPCC 24-hour helpline for advice on 0808 800 5000 or - contact the Police or Children's Services.

NB - The FA's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures is available via www.TheFA.com/Footballsafes. Click on the 'downloads' under Policy and Procedures, it outlines in detail what to do if you are concerned about the welfare of a child and includes flow diagrams to describe this process. This is also covered within the Safeguarding Children workshop, where participants are given the opportunity to discuss how this feels and how best they can prepare themselves to deal with such a situation.

Further advice on Safeguarding Children matters can be obtained from:

www.TheFA.com/Footballsafes

County Football Association's Welfare Officer

- telephone no: 01606 871 155

- Email: CountyWO@cheshirefa.com

The FA Safeguarding Children enquiry line 0845 210 8080

Emailing - Footballsafes@TheFA.com

Rose Hill Junior Football Club

PARENTS / GUARDIANS & SPECTATORS CODES OF CONDUCT

Rose Hill Junior Football Club has a number of Codes of Conduct relating to football activities. These are set out below:

- At all times adhere to the FA Respect policy.
- Ensure the children are dropped off picked up and picked up at appropriate times for both matches and practice sessions. Be aware that bad weather may curtail or cancel matches or practice sessions. It is the Parents responsibility to ensure that is not left unaccompanied should bad weather intervene.
- Parents should support their child (where possible) at all matches. Help your child recognise good performance and not just good results.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes. Support and credit should always be afforded. Criticism of a child's performances should be avoided at all times.
- Verbal and physical abuse of players, match officials, coaches or other spectators will not be tolerated under any circumstances.
- Discourage unfair play and disputes with referees / coaches.
- Publicly accept the judgment of referees without argument or comment.
- Undue pressure to perform shall not be forced upon any young player.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their football and to develop within it.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Ensure at all times that your Child behave in a proper manner, upholding the Clubs Codes of Conduct.
- Encourage your child to learn the laws of the game and to play within the spirit of those laws.
- Do not forget, children are involved in organised sport for **their** enjoyment and not **yours**.
- Any complaints or criticisms should be directed privately to the individual Coach, Manager or the Chairman.

These Codes of Conduct are guidelines and may at any time be subject to amendment by the Club.

Rose Hill Junior Football Club

YOUNG PLAYERS CODES OF CONDUCT

This football club is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all its members. The club believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect, encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with the Manager of the team or Club Chairman.

As a member of Rose Hill Junior Football Club, you are expected to abide by the general rules of the club.

- All members must play football within the laws and in the spirit of the game.
- Players shall be well mannered and well behaved at all times.
- Bad language, bullying and misbehaviour will not be tolerated.
- Respect shall be given to club facilities and equipment. This is equally applicable when representing Rose Hill Junior Football Club and visiting other Clubs.
- Verbal or physical abuse towards opposition, umpires, spectators or Coaches shall not be tolerated under any circumstances. Decisions should always be respected and dissent never shown.
- F.A. and Stockport Metro League fines imposed on Players of the Club are to be settled with the Club, or acceptable payment arrangements made through the Chairman and Treasurer within 14 days of notification of the punishment.
- All members must respect colleagues, opponents and officials. Do not make derogatory comments or gestures about your colleagues or opponents. Never try to intimidate the opposition by threats or excessive triumphalism.
- When representing Rose Hill Junior Football Club, players should wear the supplied club kit (which remains the property of Rose Hill Junior Football Club) wear appropriate footwear and shin pads.
- Players who continually disrupt practice shall be asked to sit out the session and maybe suspended from training as decided by the team manager. They will not be sent home on the night. In such circumstances they should be collected at the arranged time. In such cases we cannot accept any responsibility should that young player decide to make leave the Club grounds.
- Players who are continually disruptive shall have the membership cancelled, with no refund of costs.
- Members should keep to agreed timings for practice and matches or inform their coach or team manager at the earliest possible opportunity if they cannot play or are going to be late.

Rose Hill Junior Football Team

COACHES

The clubs coaching staff are all volunteers.

The assistance and support of parents of parents is appreciated, please speak to the team manager if you would like to be more involved.

Club coaches and team managers are in the process of completing a Criminal Record Bureau check. The Club encourages the team managers / coaches to attend FA coaching courses.

All club members who have regular contact with children will also be asked to have a CRB check. All other members of the club will be asked to complete a Self-Declaration Form.

THE CHILD WELFARE OFFICERS

The Club Welfare Officer with responsibility for the young members are:-

Name: Alison Holmes 0161 427 1667 or 07581 887 570 or wo.rhjfc@gmail.com

The Club Welfare Officers will:-

- Act as the first point of contact for the reporting of Child Welfare and Protection concerns
- Help and safeguard young people by assisting in the promotion and implementation of the *Welfare of Young People Policy* at a Club level
- To assist in the raising of awareness of others at the Club in respect of Child Protection
- To be a source of advice and information within the club
- To uphold confidentiality, as far as is practical in all Child Protection matters

Last Reviewed: 08.05.2017 / SJI