



## Play your best.. On and Off

*Make sure you and everyone around you  
has a good time, on and off the pitch.*

# Play Your Part Safeguarding Adults

## *Policy and Procedures 1/3*

This policy relates to safeguarding adults in open-age adult disability teams. Our safeguarding children policy for those U18 is covered in a separate document. Guildford Saints FC endorses and adopts the FA's Safeguarding Adults Policy.

### **Inclusive Culture:**

We commit to ensuring our club is inclusive and provides a safe and positive experience for all participants, regardless of age, gender, gender reassignment, disability, culture, language, race, faith, belief or sexual orientation. We expect everyone in the Club to share this commitment.

### **Definition of an adult at risk:**

Over 18 and has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs); and is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect.

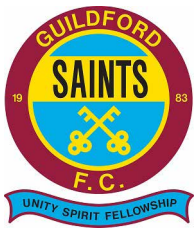
### **Our commitment to safeguarding adults:**

Adult safeguarding means protecting the adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. We recognise we all have a responsibility to safeguarding adults who are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse and neglect and expect everyone in our club to share our commitment to this.

### **Safer Recruitment**

We endorse and adopt the FA's safer recruitment guidelines for working with adults. When we recruit new people to work or volunteer at the club we:

- Specify what the role is, what tasks are involved and the skills and experience required to do the role;
- Interview applicants to explore their experiences, skills and motivation;
- Check relevant qualifications;
- Invite them to stay for a session and try out the role, whilst supervised;
- Ensure new staff or volunteers are welcomed and given an induction into safeguarding in our Club, including knowing how and when to contact the Club Welfare Officer (WFO);
- If we have concerns about the appropriateness of an individual who has approached us to become part of our Club, we seek advice from County FA Designated Safeguarding Officer (CFA DSO);
- DBS checks are requested for anyone working within Guildford Saints Football Club.



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## *Policy and Procedures 2/3*

### **Appointment**

We have appointed a Club Welfare Officer in line with the FA profile, person specification and safer recruitment guidance. The CWO sits on our committee, works to ensure that safeguarding adults is everyone's responsibility and is the first point of contact for any safeguarding concerns.

### **Training**

We strongly encourage everyone who works or volunteers with adults in our club to complete the FA's free 'Safeguarding Adults' online course to develop an understanding of adult safeguarding concerns.

### **Appropriate relationships**

We acknowledge that coaches and others may be in a relationship of trust to the adult's in open-age disability football with whom they work. For this reason, coaches and others are advised not to engage in intimate or sexual relationships with those adults. Should such a relationship develop the CWO must be informed and they will ask, in complete confidence, for guidance from the County FA DSO.

### **Reporting**

Safeguarding adults can be complex so our CWO will seek guidance and advise whenever necessary from our County FA DSO.

#### **We will follow the framework below around reporting:**

- Whenever possible, we will discuss any safeguarding concerns with the adult to establish their views and wishes before reporting;
- Whenever safe to do so, the adult will be advised that information about poor practice or abuse will be shared with the Club WO;
- No-one in our club will keep safeguarding concerns to themselves and everyone must report poor practice, abuse and any concerns that an adult may be at risk, to the Club WO. Holding back reports can leave adults at risk or allow poor practice to continue;
- We will take all reports seriously;
- We will address poor practice concerns;
- If there are concerns that might be about abuse the Club WO will report the concern to the County FA DSO within 24 hrs and follow their advice;
- In an emergency, Club members will contact the Police, call an ambulance or seek advice from local adult services. Advice from the statutory agency will be followed. In these circumstances the CWO must be informed and they will report the incident to the County FA DSO within 24 hours.

If we cannot contact the CFA DSO, we will contact the safeguarding team at The FA: [safeguarding@TheFA.com](mailto:safeguarding@TheFA.com)



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## *Policy and Procedures 3/3*

### **Action We'll take**

We will act regarding poor practice, repeated or serious misconduct at club level in line with the Club's complaint procedures, Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Adult policies. The Club acknowledges the possibility of sanctions which maybe implemented by the County FA or The FA in more serious circumstances.

### **Whistle Blowing**

We support the FA's whistle blowing policy. Whistle blowing is an important, accepted practice. No one should feel guilty about using it. It allows anyone to raise a concern, if they feel an incident has not been properly managed or reported in line with the relevant club procedures, or that a colleague's conduct is not appropriate.

To whilst blow : [safeguarding@TheFA.com](mailto:safeguarding@TheFA.com)

### **Key Contacts:**

**Club Welfare Officer:** Kelly Mahdavih

**Email:** [kelly23\\_uk@hotmail.com](mailto:kelly23_uk@hotmail.com)

**Tel:** 07510 886485

**County FA Designated Safeguarding officer:** Phil Rendall

**Email:** [safeguarding@TheFa.com](mailto:safeguarding@TheFa.com)