

POLICY ON RECRUITMENT, SELECTION AND RETENTION OF PERSONS WITH ACCESS TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Introduction

This policy is based on the England Hockey Policy on Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey and specifically the England Hockey policy on recruitment, selection and retention of persons with access to young people.

All adults who work with young people in hockey are in a position of trust which has been invested in them by parents, the sport and the young person. This relationship can be described as one in which the adult is in a position of power and influence by virtue of their position. As good practice, it is important that all reasonable steps are taken to ensure that all individuals with access to young people in hockey, whether in a paid or unpaid capacity, are suitable and appropriate. This can help to ensure that hockey offers opportunities for young people in a safe and enjoyable environment.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the good practice guidance on safe recruitment and the Policy on the use of Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Disclosures.

The Hockey Family's obligations

Everyone within the Hockey Family must act in accordance with the general principles in England Hockey's Safeguarding Young People Policy and the principles set out in this policy for recruitment and retention of persons with access to young people.

In addition, all affiliated clubs and associations must adopt and implement their own recruitment and retention policy in accordance with:

- England Hockey's Policy on Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey England Hockey's Policy on Recruitment, Selection and Retention of Persons with Access to Young People
- England Hockey's Policy on the Use of CRB Disclosures
- The supporting good practice guidance.

How England Hockey can help

England Hockey is committed to supporting its affiliated clubs and associations to implement policies through the provision of appropriate access to education and training and supporting documentation.

England Hockey is an Umbrella Body for CRB checks. This means that England Hockey will facilitate CRB checks for all affiliated clubs and associations through the England Hockey CRB Service. England Hockey will provide advice to clubs where the CRB check reveals adverse information, and this must be followed. Clubs and associations should note that they will remain responsible for all other aspects of the recruitment process.

England Hockey is also committed to ensuring that concerns relating to the recruitment, selection and retention of persons with access to young people in hockey are taken seriously and acted upon swiftly and appropriately. To achieve this, England Hockey has developed procedures for reporting concerns, set out at Section 2 of this document. England Hockey may refer concerns to the relevant statutory agencies, instigate proceedings under its own Safeguarding and Protecting Young People Complaints and Disciplinary Regulations* or refer the matter to a club or association for resolution as appropriate.

Principles and good practice

Everyone within the Hockey Family, in particular clubs, associations and other organisations, should have an understanding of the importance of good practice in recruitment, selection and retention for safeguarding young people in hockey, and should know what England Hockey's policy is on recruitment and retention. Staff and volunteers in the Hockey Family must be recruited, retained and fairly treated regardless of race, colour, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, age or disability. Staff and volunteers in the Hockey Family must not be discriminated against unfairly on the basis of a conviction or other information revealed on a CRB disclosure.

England Hockey has a Policy on the Recruitment of Ex-offenders*, which is written in accordance with the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

Selection processes when recruiting to any position, whether paid or unpaid, must be open, fair and transparent. When recruiting to a position involving access to young people:

- An enhanced CRB check must be undertaken through England Hockey's CRB Service in accordance with the Policy on the use of CRB checks. England Hockey will provide advice where the CRB check reveals disclosed information, and this must be followed. This must be renewed every 3 years;
- Application forms must be used as part of the recruitment process;
- Interviews or meetings must be held with applicants to assist in determining their suitability to work with young people;
- Two references must be obtained before a position is offered to an applicant
- Applicants must demonstrate their right to work in the UK (paid positions only)
- Refer to the England Hockey Policy on Use of CRB Disclosures (pages 10–11) and good practice guidance on safe recruitment (pages 42–43) for details

All affiliated clubs and associations must carry out retrospective enhanced CRB checks (where not previously carried out) on individuals with access to young people in accordance with the policy on the use of CRB checks. For guidance on roles that require an Enhanced check please refer to the good practice guidance on safe recruitment (pages 42–43) provided by England Hockey.

Clubs and associations must not engage any individual, either paid or unpaid, in contradiction of any sanctions imposed by England Hockey against that individual under the Safeguarding and Protecting Young People Complaints and Disciplinary Regulations*.

All positions, whether paid or unpaid, must have a role description to ensure clarity of responsibilities for all parties.

Organisations appointing to positions with access to young people in hockey must be committed to providing support through access to appropriate training and other opportunities.

- Documents available online at www.englishockey.co.uk/safe

Approved on behalf of London Wayfarers Hockey Club:

Signed
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