



Odiham & Greywell Cricket Club

E- Safety Policy

This Policy is issued in accordance with the ECB's Safeguarding & Protecting Children guidelines to which the Club adheres as a Clubmark accredited club. It is a prerequisite of membership that the Member sign a copy of this Policy and agree to be bound by its terms. In the case of Members aged under 18 years this must be counter-signed by a parent or guardian.

Purpose

Social Media, when used safely, is an excellent promotional tool and an effective means of communication for the Club. There are, however, risks associated with its use. The purpose of this Policy is to establish rules for and guidance on the safe use of social media, text, and email in order to protect Young Cricketers and other vulnerable members from exposure to inappropriate content and contact, and protect the Club and adult members, especially those working or playing cricket with Young Cricketers, from suspicion and/or damage to their reputation.

Definitions

Young Cricketers are all Members/players under 18 years old.

Members include all categories of paying members as defined from time to time in the Club Rules/Constitution, and any club official, employee, coach or other volunteers, such as team managers/administrators.

Further Guidance and Useful Links

Parents/carers, children, coaches and others working or playing cricket with children can find additional advice and information on keeping children safe online, what is expect by the ECB of those working with or playing cricket with children, and guidance for managing social media in the club at:

www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/cpsu/resources/briefings/socialnetworkingservices

www.google.co.uk/familysafety/advice/html

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/Parentsold

www.facebook.com/safety/groups/parents

www.ecb.co.uk/ecb/safeguarding-children-and-child-protection



NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit

If you suspect that someone is using social media in an unsafe or inappropriate manner, you should report their behaviour to the Club welfare Officer, Betty Read, on bet.read@btinternet.com, or, contact the County Welfare Officer, Helen Wheeler, on helen.wheeler@ageasbowl.com, or the ECB Safeguarding team at safeguarding@ecb.co.uk.

If you believe an offence has been committed, or that someone's use of social media is placing a child at risk of harm, inform the police.

Rules and Guidance

Club Officials/Coaches/Managers/Volunteers, or other adults who may come into contact with Young Cricketers/children as part of their role at the Club

- You should have separate cricket club - related and personal Facebook, Twitter, and other social accounts
- All contact with Young Cricketers should be through the former, and strictly in relation to training, coaching, matches and cricket-related activity
- You should adjust the privacy settings for your personal account so that content is only visible to accepted "friends"
- You must decline a request from Young Cricketers to be your "friend" on your social media site, and should direct them to the cricket-related page and keep all contact professional
- It is important to be mindful of any content you post online via the cricket club related page. You are representing the Club
- Your communications should conform to "Safe Hands" policy and guidance*. Ensure that nothing you post could cause personal distress to or been seen as inappropriate for Young Cricketers. If you would not put it on the club's notice report, it does not belong on the club's social media pages
- You should have consent before posting any personal information online (from parents/guardians of under 18s) – this includes photographs/videos where an individual can be identified. Do not put Young Cricketers at risk by allowing their contact details or other personal information to be disclosed to others, especially online. Remember the picture/no name guidance for under 18s. It is your responsibility to check that the consent form for publication of photos has been signed.
**"Safe Hands" can be found on the ECB website ecb.co.uk/development/Clubmark and follow links, obtained from the*



NSPCC, and a copy is available at the Club for review.

Texts, calls, and emails: contacting Under 18 players

The Children Act defines a person under 18 as a child

- You should not contact under 18s direct by phone, email, text or via social media. You should make arrangements for training /matches etc. for under 18s via their parents or carers
- An exception may be made for players over 16, where a 16 or 17 year old may be copied into a text or email to the parent, with the parent's consent. This permits the parent to monitor the communications. A response may be sent by the 16/17 year old (copying in the parent). If you receive any responses from the young person which appear inappropriate (or are not copied to the parent) you must bring them to the attention of the parent or carer, and advise the Club Welfare Officer immediately
- You should not engage in individual telephone, text, email, or social media exchanges with a 16 or 17 year old without their parent receiving the same message from you. You must report any unauthorised contact from a child (including over 16s) to the parent and the Club Welfare Officer immediately

- All contact with children should be in relation to coaching, matches, and cricket-related activity.

Social Media: Do's and Don'ts

Coaches/Managers/Volunteers/Club DO

- Have separate social media accounts for cricket-related and personal use
- Keep your photos and personal information private
- Apply the Codes of Conduct and appropriate behaviour online, by text, and email
- Obtain consent before posting other peoples personal information online – including photos where an individual can be recognised. Remember: Under 18 picture/no name
- Be careful what you post on the club's public social media accounts: Under 18s may be reading/viewing them.

DO NOT

- Send emails/texts or call Young Cricketers – make arrangements via their parents
- Send private messages to children and young people via social media
- Invite or accept children and young people to become "friends"
- Send inappropriate text messages or emails, or post messages on social media that



are offensive, nasty, abusive, discriminatory, or derogatory in any way

refers you to a number of websites where further information/tips can be found

Adult Players in Open Age Teams

- The above rules apply also to all adults playing in open age teams (i.e. teams in which Young Cricketers may be playing)
- Captains, Vice Captains, and selectors of open age teams must adhere to the rules about communication with children but may rely on the exceptions relating to making playing arrangements with over 16s
- All adults in open age teams need to be mindful of the age of those who may have access to material you share or comments you make on social media – especially the club’s social media accounts. Make sure it is not inappropriate.

- Be aware of who your child is interacting with online. Remember it is against Facebook’s rules for children of under 13 to have an account
- It is important that your child feels they can talk to someone if they are being bullied online, or they have been exposed to something that makes them upset or uncomfortable. Make sure they know who to talk to at the Club if this involves the club’s social media and/or someone involved with the club
- Please explain to them what social media/online contact, if any, is appropriate for them to have with their coaches, and other adults with whom they may train or play at the club, and why it is important that they keep to the rules and report anyone who breaks these rules to you and/or the Club Welfare Officer (or their coach if it does not involve the coach)
- Tell the Club Welfare Officer immediately if you are aware of or suspect a breach of these rules

Guidance for Parents/Carers and children/Young people

Parents/Carers

- By adopting this Policy the Club is taking the steps it can to promote the safe and appropriate use of social media within the club and by its Members. Please do what you can to ensure that your children are safe online. This Policy



- Give us your contact details (and update us of any changes) so that we may contact you regarding training, matches, etc.

Parents/Carers Do

- **Make sure you are aware of who your child has contact with online, social media, or via text**
- **Be aware of the ECB and the club's expectation of coaches and others working with Young Cricketers and the use of social media**
- **Talk to your children about using social media and what is expected by the Club**
- **Let us have your mobile number and email address so that we can contact you**
- **Report any concerns to the Club Welfare Officer**

Children and Young People

The internet is a great place to learn and have fun with your friends but it is important that you make sure you stay safe. You should think about the points below whenever you are on the internet, or speak to people online, by Snapchat, and text

- If someone is not your friend in real life, they are not your friend on the internet. Be careful when accepting "friend" requests, people are not

always who they say they are. If you are not 100% sure, don't risk it.

- Remember to change your privacy settings so that only your accepted friends can see information about you, your wall posts, and your photos
- If someone is sending you messages or texts that you are worried about, you are being bullied online, or you see or read something that upsets you, tell your parents, an adult you trust, your teacher or the Club Welfare Officer, especially if it involves the club's website, Facebook or other social media accounts
- Your coach, and the other adults who help with training, team management, and matches, are professionals, just like your teachers. They should not be your friend on Facebook, and should not be calling, texting, or messaging you. If they do contact you, or ask for your email or mobile number, tell your parents, the Club Welfare Officer, or some other adult you trust
- **You can expect them to make arrangements for coaching and matches with your parents. If you are 16 or 17 years old and playing for or training with senior teams, the coach, team captain/vice-captain, or team selector can with your parents' consent, copy you into emails/texts on cricket-related matters and you may respond**



directly to these (copying in your parents)

- Do not ask your coach, or other adults at the Club for their personal email or mobile numbers, or ask them to be your friend on Facebook.
- **Don't be afraid to tell someone if you have concerns**
- **Have a look at the Think You Know page about staying safe online: www.thinkuknow.co.uk**

Children/Young People DO

- Keep your photos and personal information private
- Conduct yourself in a courteous and respectful manner on social media as you would at home, school, or at cricket
- Tell your parents, an adult you trust, or the Club Welfare Officer if you are worried or concerned about online behaviour, or unwanted contact or communications (including any photos/videos)
- Tell your parents, an adult you trust, or the Club Welfare

Officer if any coach or other adult at the club asks for your contact information, asks to be your friend on Facebook, or tries to contact you on other social media

Children and Young People DO NOT

- Send inappropriate text/picture messages, or post messages, photos or other material on social media that are offensive, nasty, or derogatory in anyway
- Accept friend requests from people you do not know or you feel uncomfortable accepting
- Accept friend requests from any coach or other adult involved in training or managing your cricket team or one of the other cricket team at the Club, or give them your personal contact details
- Ask a club coach or similar adult at the club to become your friend on Facebook, or for their personal contact details

This Policy was adopted at the AGM on 7th November 2014

- **I have read, understood and agree to comply with the terms of this Policy.**



- **Signed:..... {the Member}**
- **Counter-signed :{Parent or Guardian of Colt/Junior Member}**
- **Dated:**