



Middlesex Golf

## **Safeguarding Children and Young People – A Short Guide**

The purpose of this document is to make all County members aware of their safeguarding responsibility, identify particular areas of the Safeguarding Policy that they should be aware of and give some guidance on reporting procedures if a concern is identified. A county may choose to display this on a notice board or give a copy to all new/existing members.

Middlesex Golf is committed to ensure that the sport of golf is one within which children and young people involved can thrive and flourish in a safe environment and that all children, young people and adults at risk have a fun, safe and positive experience when playing golf.

Middlesex Golf follows the England Golf Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and procedures.

You might be thinking **“What has safeguarding got to do with me?”**

Government guidance makes it clear that ‘Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility’.

Anyone who has a negative experience of sport at a young age is less likely to become a regular long-term participant. It’s important for the future of the sport as a whole that children and young people have an enjoyable experience.

### **Everyone has a part to play in making that happen.**

All adults should contribute to the county meeting its overall duty of care, be aware of our county’s safeguarding policy, and know what to do if they are concerned about a young person.

Middlesex Golf asks everyone to

- Familiarise yourself with the Middlesex Golf Safeguarding Policy.

The full copy of the Middlesex Golf Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is available on our website <https://www.middlesexgolf.co.uk/>

## **1. Middlesex Golf Codes of Conduct**

Adults should always be aware that age related differences exist and conduct themselves in a manner that both recognises this and prioritises the welfare of children and young people.

## **2. Anti-Bullying Policy**

Middlesex Golf believe that every effort must be made to eradicate bullying in all its forms. The County will not tolerate bullying in any of its forms during county matches, competitions, coaching or at any other time.

## **3. Transport Policy**

The county believes it is primarily the responsibility of parents/carers to transport their child/children to and from events. In the event of group transportation organised by the County to or from an event; the County will take responsibility for all children provided that the parents/carers have completed the requisite transportation permissions document in appendix 10. The County will provide a responsible adult to care for the children in other than the driver.

## **4. Changing Room Policy**

The County ask all children representing Middlesex to abide and respect the local club changing room policies of the venue being used.

If the club being used does not have a changing room policy, Middlesex Golf ask child/children to note that changing rooms are used by all members & visitors. Wherever possible adults should avoid changing or showering at the same time as children, but parents will be made aware that with limited changing room space there will be occasions when adults and children may need to share the facilities. Where a parent/carer does not consent to their child accessing the changing rooms, it is their responsibility to either supervise the child while in the changing rooms or ensure that they do not use them.

## **5. Photography, Videoing and the use of Social Media Policies**

Think very carefully before contacting a young person via mobile phone, e-mail or social media.

Do not accept children as contacts on social networking sites if you hold a position of trust with children/young people.

In general stick to group communications, copy the communication to a parent and only communicate about organisational matters.

## **What should I do if I'm concerned about a child or young person?**

A concern may involve the behaviour of an adult towards a child, or something that has happened to the child outside county activities/events.

Children and young people may confide in adults they trust, in a place where they feel comfortable.

An allegation may range from verbal bullying, to inappropriate contact online, to neglect or emotional abuse, to physical or sexual abuse.

If you are concerned about a child, it is not your responsibility to investigate further, but it is your responsibility to act on your concerns and share them.

Pass the information to Middlesex Golf Welfare Officer who will follow the county's Safeguarding procedures.

Name: **Anne Koychev**

Email Address: **[annekoychev@googlemail.com](mailto:annekoychev@googlemail.com)**

Telephone Number: **020 8354 2290**

If you believe the child is at immediate risk of harm, call the Police.

Other useful contacts:

NSPCC 24-hour helpline Tel: 0808 800 5000 | England Golf Lead Safeguarding Officer on 01526 351856 or via email [safeguarding@englandgolf.org](mailto:safeguarding@englandgolf.org)