

Safeguarding Policy: Transporting Junior Players to Cricket Activities

Purpose

This policy aims to ensure the safety and welfare of junior players when being transported by adults for both Junior and Open-Age cricket activities.

Scope

This policy applies to all club members, including senior players, volunteers, and parents/carers who may be involved in transporting junior players to cricket activities.

Policy Statement

The club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all junior players. This policy outlines the procedures and guidelines for safely transporting juniors to junior and open-age cricket activities, and is based on, and incorporates the ECB's "Transporting Children to Cricket Activities" Policy.

Whilst we understand that the ECB's position is that coaches, staff and volunteers do **NOT** transport junior players to and from cricket activities, it is also appreciated that often coaches, staff and volunteers may also be parents/carers of junior players taking part in cricket activities, and that emergency situations may arise, resulting in the need to transport junior players to hospital at short notice, on behalf of their parents/carers. Also, we realise that last-minute changes may result in junior players being left without transport to cricket activities so coaches, managers and senior players may be called upon to help out.

In these cases, the ECB's "Rule of Two" must be adhered to: drivers should avoid being alone with a junior player, and must ensure there is always an additional adult supervisor, or that more than one junior player is present.

Guidelines

1. Parental Consent

- Parents/carers should check the relevant box on the junior membership form to give consent for the junior player to be transported by a designated adult.

2. Driver Requirements

- Junior Coaches/managers and open-age captains should agree with parents/carers a list of which adults are permitted to transport such junior players to cricket activities.
- All drivers must hold a valid driving licence.

3. Vehicle Safety

- The vehicle should have a current MOT and Insurance Policy.
- It is the driver's responsibility to ensure that all passengers over 12 years of age or over 135cm tall should wear a seatbelt at all times. The vehicle should have appropriate child safety seats for any passengers under 12 years of age or under 135cm tall.

4. Travel Arrangements

- The following should be noted from the ECB's "Transporting Children to Cricket Activities" Policy:
 - "Full responsibility is placed on parents/carers for ensuring appropriate travel arrangements are made".
 - "Coaches, Staff and Volunteers are not responsible for arranging transportation or transporting any child to and from cricketing activities".

5. Emergency Procedures

- Any adult transporting juniors to cricket activities should have the junior players' parents/carers' contact details, in case of emergency.

6. Behaviour and Conduct

- Maintain appropriate boundaries and avoid any behaviour that could be misinterpreted. Keep conversations appropriate for the juniors present.
- Always respect the privacy and dignity of junior players.

7. Reporting Concerns

- Any concerns or incidents during transportation should be reported to the club's safeguarding officer as soon as possible.
- Ensure all incidents are documented and reviewed to improve future practices.

Review and Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually or as required to ensure it remains effective and up to date with current safeguarding standards.

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