

Child protection policy

It is the policy of Ferndown Forest Golf Club to safeguard the welfare of all members by protecting them from neglect and from physical, sexual and emotional harm.

The Club is committed to:

- Taking into account in all its considerations and activities, the interests and wellbeing of young people.
- Respecting the rights, wishes and feelings of the young people with whom it is working.
- Taking all reasonable practicable steps to protect them from neglect, physical, sexual and emotional abuse.
- Promoting the welfare of young people and their protection within a position of trust.

All Club staff and members of Ferndown Forest Club who wish to participate in competitions and activities alongside our young people, are responsible for putting this policy into practice at all times, and provided with a copy of the Code of Behaviour.

All adult staff and members have a responsibility to ensure that young people are protected from harm. It is the responsibility of each adult to ensure that:

- Their behaviour is appropriate at all times.
- They observe the rules established for the safety and security of young people.
- They follow the procedures following suspicion, disclosure or allegation of child abuse
- They recognise the position of trust in which they have been placed
- In every respect, the relationships they form with the young people under their care are appropriate.

Code of Behaviour

- DO** put this code into practice at all times
 - DO** treat everyone with dignity and respect
 - DO** set an example you would wish others to follow
 - DO** treat all young people equally – show no favouritism
 - DO** plan activities that involve more than one other person being present, or at least are within sight and hearing of others
 - DO** follow the recommended adult/young people ratios for meetings and activities
 - DO** respect a young person's right to personal privacy
 - DO** avoid unacceptable situations within a relationship of trust
 - DO** have separate sleeping accommodation for young people, adults and Young Leaders working with a younger section
 - DO** allow young people to talk about any concerns they may have
 - DO** encourage others to challenge any attitudes or behaviours they do not like
 - DO** avoid being drawn into inappropriate attention seeking behaviour e.g. tantrums and crushes
 - DO** ensure a no alcohol policy when young people are in your care
 - DO** make everyone aware of the Club's child protection procedures – young people, parents/carers, professionals and other helpers
 - DO** remember this code even at sensitive moments e.g. when responding to bullying, bereavement or abuse
 - DO** keep other adult members informed of where you are and what you are doing
 - DO** remember someone else might misinterpret your actions, no matter how well-intentioned
 - DO** take any allegations or concerns of abuse seriously and refer immediately to the appropriate authorities.
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- DO NOT** trivialise abuse
 - DO NOT** form a relationship with a young person that is an abuse of trust
 - DO NOT** permit abusive peer activities e.g. initiation ceremonies, bullying
 - DO NOT** engage in inappropriate behaviour or contact – physical, verbal, sexual
 - DO NOT** play physical contact games with young people
 - DO NOT** make suggestive remarks or threats to a young person, even in fun
 - DO NOT** use inappropriate language – writing, phoning, email or internet
 - DO NOT** let allegations, suspicions, or concerns about abuse go unreported
 - DO NOT** just rely on your good name to protect you

CONFIDENTIALITY PROTOCOL AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

Confidentiality

Details of juniors shall be kept on file by the General Manager, Junior Organiser and PGA Golf Professionals.

From time to time the County bodies may also ask for details of promising juniors and these will be passed on as part of our commitment to developing a junior members golfing talent.

What to do in the case of an emergency

Player profile forms/medical consent forms will be obtained and retained by Ferndown Forest Golf Club for all the children who are members or attending coaching at the club.

These forms will be available at all times and reviewed each year. They will be treated in confidence and only shared with those who require the information they contain to perform their role effectively.

In the event of a child requiring medical attention:

The parents will be contacted immediately.

In the event of failure to contact parents, the alternative emergency contacts will be used.

The consent form will be consulted to establish whether parents have given their permission for the club representative to act in loco parentis.

An adult club representative will accompany the child to seek medical attention, if appropriate.

A record of any/all action taken will be made and retained by Ferndown Forest Golf Club.

We know that young people thrive in safe surroundings. We are therefore committed to ensuring that golfing is both enjoyable and safe for everyone who takes part.

If you are unhappy with anything relating to your child's time spent at the club or whilst taking part in competitions or other organised activities you should raise it with the Junior Team Co-ordinator. If you are not happy to do this you can if you prefer speak with any member of the Club's staff or PGA professional.

Ferndown Forest Golf Club affiliates to the Golf Union/Association, The Club recognises the policies of these Governing Bodies, as set in out in Guidelines for Safeguarding Children in Golf. <http://www.childreningolf.org/>