

BEYOND BADMINTON CHORLEY

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Drafted in line with Badminton England's Safeguarding and Protecting Young People guidance

1. Policy Statement

Beyond Badminton Chorley is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk who take part in club activities. The club adopts and follows Badminton England's Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Badminton Policy, and expects all members, coaches, volunteers, and committee members to do the same.

2. Scope

This policy applies to everyone connected with the club, including committee members, coaches, volunteers, parents/carers, and players of all ages, at all sessions, matches, and club-related activities run by Beyond Badminton Chorley.

3. Welfare Officer(s)

The club has appointed the following as Club Welfare Officers, who act as the first point of contact for any safeguarding concern:

- Lynette Tidy
- Catherine Houseman

Our current coaches and Welfare Officers hold valid Badminton England-approved DBS checks and have completed recognised safeguarding training. Where a concern relates to a Welfare Officer themselves, members should instead contact the Club Chair, Secretary, or Badminton England's Safeguarding Team directly (details below).

4. Safe Recruitment

Our coaches and Welfare Officers currently hold satisfactory Badminton England enhanced DBS checks and have completed recognised safeguarding training. In addition, the club will:

- Require any future coaches or volunteers in regular contact with young people ("regulated activity" — broadly, coaching, training, or supervising children once a week or more, or overnight) to hold a satisfactory Badminton England enhanced DBS check before starting their role;
- Ensure coaches working with junior members hold a valid Badminton England coaching qualification and appear on the Badminton England coaching register;
- Ensure Welfare Officers renew their Badminton England-approved safeguarding training as required;
- Keep a record of DBS checks and safeguarding training completed by relevant coaches, volunteers, and committee members.

5. Good Practice Guidelines

All coaches, volunteers, and committee members should:

- Always work in an open environment, avoiding unobserved one-to-one situations with junior members wherever possible;
- Treat all young people with respect and avoid favouritism;
- Never engage in rough, physical, or sexually provocative games, or inappropriate touching of any kind;

- Never share a room, transport, or accommodation alone with a junior member without another adult present or without explicit parental consent recorded in advance;
- Be aware that a position of trust exists between an adult and a young person, and never allow an emotionally or physically dependent relationship to develop;
- Report any accidental injury, distress, or misunderstanding involving a junior member to the Welfare Officer and the child's parent/carer as soon as possible.

6. Reporting a Concern

Anyone with a concern about the welfare of a child or adult at risk connected with the club should:

- Report it to a Club Welfare Officer as soon as possible, in confidence;
- Where the concern involves immediate risk of harm, contact the Police or Children's Social Care / Adult Social Care directly without delay;
- Where the concern involves a Welfare Officer, report instead to the Club Chair or Secretary, or directly to Badminton England's Safeguarding Team.

The Club Welfare Officer will record the concern and, in line with Badminton England's procedures, will seek advice from the County Welfare Officer and/or Badminton England's Safeguarding Team as appropriate. Concerns will be handled sensitively, promptly, and on a need-to-know basis.

Badminton England Safeguarding Team — Email: safeguarding@badmintonengland.co.uk · Tel: 01908 268400

7. Confidentiality

Information about a safeguarding concern will only be shared with those who need to know, in order to protect the individual involved and to comply with the club's obligations under this policy and Badminton England's procedures. Confidentiality will not be maintained where doing so would place a child or adult at risk of harm.

8. Related Policies and Resources

This policy should be read alongside the club's Constitution and Code of Conduct. The full Badminton England Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Badminton Policy, along with guidance for coaches, parents, and officials, is available at badmintonengland.co.uk/safeguarding.

9. Review and Adoption

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Committee, or sooner if guidance from Badminton England changes. It was adopted by Beyond Badminton Chorley on _____.

Signed (Chair): _____ Date: _____

Signed (Welfare Officer): _____ Date: _____

This Safeguarding Policy is a good-practice template based on Badminton England's published safeguarding guidance and common practice among affiliated clubs. It is not legal advice. The Committee should review and formally adopt it, keep DBS checks and safeguarding training renewed as required, and refer to Badminton England's full national policy for complete procedures.