



Beverley WhiteStar Football Club

Safeguarding Children Policy

The aim of the Beverley WhiteStar Safeguarding Children Policy is to provide a clear and explicit framework of rules and responsibilities for everyone involved in the Club, in order to ensure that a safe environment is provided for all children within the Club.

The key points of the Policy are:

1. We are committed providing a safe environment for all of our members under the age of 18, that protects them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying.
2. All children have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation.
3. Every adult involved in our Club takes a responsibility for child protection.
4. All Club volunteers who have direct contact with Club members under the age of 18 are required to complete a Football Association CRB Disclosure and a Hull Boys Sunday Football League Child protection self-declaration check.
5. A Club Welfare Officer has been appointed to oversee all aspects of child protection.
6. Codes of Conduct have been issued and are readily available to outline the expectations of everyone involved in the Club.
7. A reporting procedure is in place in order to allow any suspicions or allegations of abuse to be highlighted by any Club member.
8. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and investigated swiftly through the procedure in place.

1. Club responsibilities

Beverley WhiteStar Football Club acknowledges its responsibilities to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all members. A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any club football activity. We subscribe to the Football Association's child protection and best practice policy and procedures and endorse and adopt the policy statement contained in that document.

2. The FA Safeguarding Children Policy

The key principles of the FA Safeguarding Children Policy are that:

- The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration.
- All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents or carers is essential

We acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse. Beverley WhiteStar Football Club recognizes that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in our Club.

3. Safeguarding of Children

Beverley WhiteStar Football Club has a role to play in the safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. It is noted and accepted that the Football Association's child protection regulation (see the FA handbook) applies to everyone in football whether in a paid or voluntary capacity. This includes those who are a volunteer, a match official, helper on club tours, football coach, club official or medical staff.

4. Volunteers

We endorse and adopt the FA's Child Protection and Best Practice Guidelines for Recruiting Volunteers and will:

- Develop a role profile
- request identifying documents
- As a minimum, meet and chat with the applicants and where possible, conduct interviews before appointing.
- request and follow up with two references before appointing
- require an FA CRB Unit Enhanced Disclosure, where appropriate, in line with FA Guidelines

All current Beverley WhiteStar Football Club members with direct access to children and young people will be required to complete a CRB Enhanced Disclosure via the FA CRB Unit. If there are concerns regarding the appropriateness of an individual who is already involved or who has approached us to become part of Beverley WhiteStar Football Club, guidance will be sought from the Football Association. All Managers and coaches and committee members of Beverley WhiteStar Football Club will be required to complete Safeguarding Children training of some nature at the earliest opportunity of joining the Club and receive refresher training every 3 years.

All other Committee members and Volunteer members of Beverley WhiteStar Football Club will be made aware of the Club's policies and procedures regarding safeguarding children and young people and directed to The FA Safeguarding Children Policy.

All Managers and coaches, Club committee members and volunteers will be required to complete a Hull Boys Sunday Football League Child Protection – Self Declaration Form, and to carry their Registered Official card with them when attending matches and being in the presence of children and young persons connected to Beverley WhiteStar Football Club.

It is noted and accepted that the FA will consider the relevance and significance of the information obtained via The FA CRB Unit Enhanced CRB Disclosure and that all decisions will be made in the best interests of children and young people.

It is accepted that The FA aims to prevent people with a history of relevant and significant offending from having contact with children and young people and the opportunity to influence policies or practice with children or young people. This is to prevent direct sexual and physical harm to children and to minimise the risk of 'grooming' within football.

5. Whistle blowing

Beverley WhiteStar Football Club supports The FA's 'whistle blowing' policy. Any adult or young person with concerns about a colleague can 'whistle blow' by contacting The FA Child Protection Manager on 0207 745 4771, by writing to The FA Case Manager at The Football Association, 25 Soho Square, London W1D 4FA or by going direct to the police, social services or the NSPCC. Beverley WhiteStar Football Club encourages everyone to know about it and utilize it if necessary.

6. Club Welfare Officer (CWO)

Beverley WhiteStar Football Club has appointed a Club Welfare officer (CWO) in line with The FA's role profile and required completion of the child protection and best practice workshop. The post holder will be involved with designated person's training provided by The FA. The CWO is the first point of contact for all Club members and parents or guardians regarding concerns for the welfare of any child or young person. They will liaise directly with the CFA CPO and will be familiar with the procedures for referring any concerns. They will also play a proactive in increasing an awareness of poor practice and abuse amongst Club members.

Each team in Beverley WhiteStar Football Club will appoint a designated Welfare Co-ordinator as a point of contact for parents and children, and with whom the CWO will liaise, and ensure that everyone is kept up to date with any changes in policy or practice.

All Welfare Co-ordinators, as a minimum, will be made aware of the Club's policies and procedures regarding safeguarding children and young people and directed to The FA Child Protection Policy at www.TheFa.com, and ideally undergo Child Protection training.

7. Bullying

We acknowledge and endorse the FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable at our club. If bullying does occur, all players, parents or guardians should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly. Incidents need to be reported to the CWO, a member of the committee or in cases of serious bullying, contact the CFA CPO. An incident form is available as part of this policy (see below)

8. Codes of conducts

Codes of conducts for players, parents or spectators, officials and coaches have been implemented by Beverley WhiteStar Football Club. These codes are available from each Team Manager, a member of the Executive Committee or from the Beverley WhiteStar Football Club website at www.beverleywhitestar.co.uk

In order to validate these codes of conduct, the Club has clear sanctions to deal with any misconduct at club level and acknowledges the possibility of potential sanctions which may be implemented by leagues or the CFA in more serious circumstances. All prospective members will be informed of these codes.

9. Incident or Concern Reporting

Reporting of any incidents or concerns should be made promptly by those concerned, on the attached Concern Form, in order that the issue can be dealt with correctly and swiftly.

The reporting procedure is as follows

1. Inform the designated CWO of the concern immediately.
2. Complete a Concern Form (see below) as quickly and as fully as possible and return it to the CWO within 48 hours. If a form is not immediately available, jot down important details whilst the incident is fresh in the mind trying to distinguish fact from hearsay.

3. The CWO will keep all Concern Forms and ensure they are acted upon within 24hours seeking advice from and involving appropriate agencies (such as FA/NSPCC helpline).

10. Investigation

The CWO will lead any investigations that are initiated, and recruit one committee member and one manager onto the investigation team.

In order to resolve any issues within the Club, the necessary people will be involved/ informed strictly on a 'need to know' basis, as determined by the CWO.

All information relating to any investigated case will be kept confidential until an appropriate communication is issued by the Club.

Anyone involved in a child protection allegation will be suspended from the Club until the issue is investigated and resolved, in order to protect the interests of the children and young persons of Beverley WhiteStar Football Club.

An Investigation Report, including actions and recommendations, will be issued by the CWO at the earliest opportunity, and all documentation and notes relating to the case will be retained by the CWO.

11. Further advice

Further advice on child protection matters can be obtained from:

- the County Football Associations Child Protection Officer, whose details can be found in the County handbook.
- the football association/NSPCC child protection.
- 24 hour helpline 0808 800 5000.
- www.theFA.com/goal.
- the FA child protection team 0207 7454649

12. Beverley WhiteStar key contacts

Club Welfare Officer: Morag Shard - 27 Saxon Rise, Beverley, HU17 7SN
01482 870637
mo@shard27.karoo.co.uk

Club Secretary: Michael Burton - 24 Thurstan Road, Beverley, HU17 8LP
01482 887692
mike.burton2000@yahoo.co.uk

Club Chairman: Rod Hulme - 7, Jolley Drive, Beverley, HU17 8FS
01482 866711
hulme7@hulme7.karoo.co.uk

CONCERN FORM

To be given to CWO within 48 hours

NAME OF CHILD

TEAM

Date Of Birth

PARENT/CARER DETAILS

CHILD'S ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

WHAT IS SAID TO HAVE HAPPENED

WHAT WAS SEEN

WHEN DID IT HAPPEN (DATES&TIMES)

WITNESSES

WHAT WAS SAID

ACTUAL EVIDENCE (eg.BLEEDING/BRUISING/CHANGE IN BEHAVIOUR)

WHO HAS BEEN INFORMED

NAME OF PERSON WHO WAS CONCERNED

WHAT DID CHILD SAY

WHEN WERE PARENTS/CARERS INFORMED

SIGNED.....

DATED.....

FORM RECEIVED BY CWO

SIGNED.....

DATED.....

ACTION TAKEN

Designated CWO details

NAME: Mrs Morag Shard

ADDRESS: 27 Saxon Rise
Beverley
HU17 7SN

TEL. 01482 870637 email: mo@shard27.karoo.co.uk

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or concerns relating to child protection issues within Beverley WhiteStar Football Club.
We want it to be a safe and happy place for everyone.

Thanks for your co-operation.