Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy

INTRODUCTION

Everyone working with children and young people has a responsibility for keeping them safe, irrespective of their role, whether they are paid members staff or volunteers.

England Golf is committed to ensure that the sport of golf is one within which all participants can thrive in a safe environment and that all children and young people have an enjoyable and positive experience when playing golf.

PRINCIPLES

- The welfare of children is paramount.
- A child is defined by law in England and Wales as a person under the age of 18 years
- All children, regardless of their Age, Race, Religion or Belief, Disability, Gender Identify or Sexual Orientation, have the right to protection from abuse
- All concerns and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- All children have the right to be safe
- All children have the right to be treated with dignity and respect
- Doncaster Golf Club will work with children, their parents/carers and external organisations to safeguard the welfare of children participating in golf.
- We recognise the authority of the statutory agencies and are committed to complying with Local Safegarding Children Board Guidelines (LSCB), Working together under the Children Act 2004, and any legislation and statutory guidance that supersedes these.
- Doncaster Golf Club is committed to working in partnership with other key UK Golf Bodies to continually improve and to promote safeguarding initiatives across the sport.
- Doncaster Golf Club owes a legal duty of care to children on their premises or engaged in their activities. That duty is to take reasonable care to ensure their reasonable safety and duty is higher than it would be for adults.

OBJECTIVES

Doncaster Golf Club aims to:

- Provide a safe environment for children and young people participating in golfing activities and try to ensure that they enjoy the experience.
- Ensure robust systems are in place to manage any concerns or allegations.
- Support adults (staff, volunteers, PGA Professionals, coaches, members and visitors) to understand their roles and responsibilities with regard to the Duty of Care and protection of children.
- Provide appropriate level training, support and resources for staff, volunteers & coaches to make informed and confident responses to specific safeguarding issues and to fulfill their role effectively.
- Ensure that children and their parents/carers are informed and consulted and, where appropriate, fully involved in decisions that affect them.
- Reassure parents and carers that all children and young people will receive the best care possible whilst participating in club activities and communicate Policy and Procedure to them through website/letters/consents.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION

Doncaster Golf Club will seek to promote the principles of safeguarding children by:

- Reviewing their policy and procedures every three years or whenever there is a major change in legislation. Guidance from England Golf will be sought as part of the review process.
- Conducting a risk assessment of club activities with regard to safeguarding and take appropriate action to address the identified issues within suitable timescales.
- Using appropriate recruitment procedures to assess the suitability of volunteers and staff working with children and young people in line with guidance from England Golf.
- Following National Governing Body (NGB) procedures to report concerns and allegations about the behaviour of adults and ensuring that all staff, volunteers, parents and children are aware of these procedures.
- Directing staff, volunteers & coaches to appropriate safeguarding training and learning opportunities, where this is appropriate to their role.

Signed: Chair of the Committee Doncaster Golf Club Date: 5th March 2024