

Falkirk Indoor Bowling Club Safeguarding Policy

1. Purpose

Falkirk Indoor Bowling Club is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for all members, visitors, and participants. This policy outlines our approach to safeguarding children, young people, and vulnerable adults, ensuring their welfare is protected at all times.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All club members
 - Coaches, volunteers, and staff
 - Visitors and participants in club activities
 - External partners working with the club
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3. Principles

- **Safety First:** The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is paramount.
 - **Respect & Inclusion:** Everyone has the right to participate free from discrimination, bullying, or abuse.
 - **Transparency:** Concerns will be taken seriously, handled promptly, and reported appropriately.
 - **Accountability:** All members share responsibility for safeguarding.
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4. Safeguarding Roles

- **Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO):**
 - Main point of contact for safeguarding concerns.
 - Ensures compliance with national safeguarding standards.
 - Maintains confidential records of incidents.
 - **Committee Members:**
 - Support safeguarding practices.
 - Ensure safeguarding is embedded in club governance.
 - **Coaches & Volunteers:**
 - Complete safeguarding training.
 - Promote safe practices during sessions.
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5. Code of Conduct

All members must:

- Treat others with respect and dignity.
- Avoid inappropriate physical or verbal contact.
- Never engage in bullying, harassment, or discriminatory behaviour.

- Report concerns immediately to the CSO.
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6. Safe Recruitment

- All staff and volunteers working with children or vulnerable adults must undergo:
 - PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Groups) checks.
 - Reference checks.
 - Induction and safeguarding training.
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7. Responding to Concerns

- **Recognise:** Be alert to signs of abuse, neglect, or unsafe behaviour.
 - **Respond:** Listen calmly, avoid judgment, and reassure the individual.
 - **Report:** Share concerns with the CSO immediately.
 - **Record:** Document facts clearly and confidentially.
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8. Confidentiality

- Information will only be shared on a “need-to-know” basis.
 - Records will be stored securely and in line with data protection laws.
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9. Training & Awareness

- Annual safeguarding training for coaches and volunteers.
 - Awareness sessions for members on safe behaviour.
 - Updates provided in line with Scottish Bowling Association and Children 1st guidance.
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10. Review

- This policy will be reviewed annually by the Club Committee.
 - Updates will reflect changes in legislation, guidance, or club circumstances.
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11. Contacts

- **Club Safeguarding Officer:** Elaine Sellars ~ 07796 033761
- **Local Authority Social Work Department:** Falkirk Council Social Work Services
- **Police Scotland:** 101 (or 999 in emergencies)
- **Children 1st Safeguarding in Sport:** www.children1st.org.uk