



# BRIDGEND ATHLETIC RFC SAFEGUARDING POLICY



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|---------------|--------------------------|
| Revision No.: | 1.2                      |
| Effective:    | 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 |
| Owner:        | James Coupland           |

THIS POLICY IS APPLICABLE TO ALL AREAS OF BRIDGEND ATHLETIC INCLUDING:  
BARFC 1XV / BARFC 2XV / BARFC YOUTH / BARFC MINI AND JUNIOR SECTION /  
OGWR HAWKS (WRU GIRLS RUGBY HUB)

# Policy

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## 1. Policy Statement

Bridgend Athletic RFC (BARFC) is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and adults at risk involved in rugby at the club.

The club adopts and implements the safeguarding policies and procedures of the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) and will ensure full compliance with all current guidance, regulations, and best practice standards.

We recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and are committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and enjoyable environment for all participants.

## 2. Scope of Policy

This policy applies to all players, coaches, volunteers, officials, parents, carers, spectators, and committee members of both Bridgend Athletic RFC and any visitors or visiting teams.

## 3. Key Safeguarding Principles

The welfare of the child and adults is paramount. Safe recruitment procedures are followed. All concerns are reported appropriately. Training is completed and evidenced. Clear accountability is in place.

## 4. Governance and Accountability

A Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) is appointed and trained. Safeguarding is reviewed regularly. Records are securely maintained.

## 5. Roles and Responsibilities

The CSO manages safeguarding concerns, liaises with WRU, oversees DBS checks, and maintains records. Concerns involving the CSO are reported to the Club Secretary.

## 6. Safer Recruitment and DBS Compliance

All individuals in regulated activity must hold a valid DBS check. A DBS register is maintained.

## **7. Training and Awareness**

All relevant individuals complete safeguarding training and awareness is promoted across the club.

## **8. Codes of Conduct**

Strict standards apply. Abuse, inappropriate behaviour, and breaches of trust are not tolerated.

## **9. Facilities and Changing Rooms**

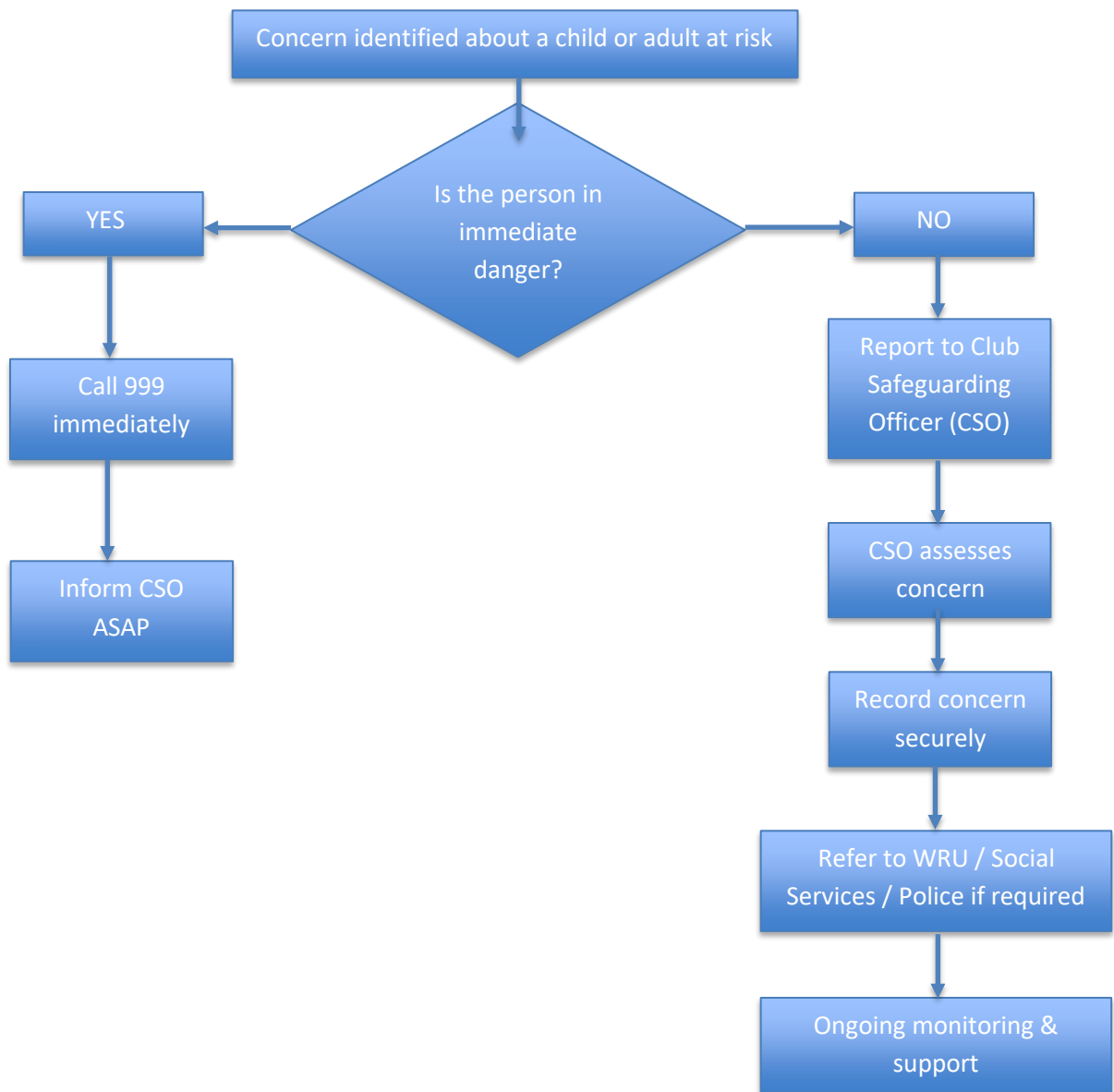
Appropriate supervision and safeguarding measures are in place.

## **10. Events and Tours**

Risk assessments and safeguarding plans are required for all activities.

## **11. Reporting Concerns**

Concerns must be reported immediately to the CSO or emergency services if urgent.



## 12. Contacts

**Club Safeguarding Officer:** Mr. James Coupland

**Bridgend Athletic RFC Mini and Junior Chairperson:** Matthew Tellem

Contact Details on Request via: **01656 652263** or **Contact Page** on the **Bridgend Athletic RFC** website - <https://bridgendathletic.rfc.wales/contact-us/>

**Emergency Contact Details:**

- Police: 999 / 101
- NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
- Bridgend County Council Social Services (Report a child at risk): 01656 642320
- Emergency Duty Team (out of hours): 01443 743665

## 13. Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) Job Description

**Club Safeguarding Officer****Role Overview**

The Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) plays a vital role in ensuring that our club provides a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for everyone involved in rugby. This role is responsible for making sure the club complies with the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) Safeguarding Policy and all related guidance.

The CSO acts as the main point of contact for safeguarding matters, helping to protect children and adults at risk, and ensuring that any concerns are handled appropriately and confidentially.

**Key Responsibilities**

The Club Safeguarding Officer will:

- Act as the primary point of contact with the WRU Integrity Team for safeguarding matters, including DBS checks and any concerns or complaints
- Manage and process DBS applications for all eligible volunteers within the club
- Ensure all members, volunteers, and parents know who the CSO is and how to get in touch
- Provide updates to the Club Management Committee on safeguarding matters where appropriate
- Handle all safeguarding information with the highest level of confidentiality
- Promote and uphold the WRU Safeguarding Policy across all club activities

**Commitment**

- The CSO is appointed for the full season (a minimum of 12 months). While the role is ongoing throughout the year, there are busier periods—particularly during the summer months—when new volunteers join the club.
- During this time, there is a greater focus on processing DBS checks for individuals working with children. Throughout the season, the CSO will also monitor club activities,

manage any safeguarding concerns, and process new or renewal DBS applications as required.

**Club Safeguarding Officer:** Mr. James Couland

**Bridgend Athletic RFC Mini and Junior Chairperson:** Matthew Tellem

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## **14. Monitoring and Review**

This policy is reviewed annually and updated in line with WRU guidance.