

## Section One Policy Statement

[www.volleyballengland.org](http://www.volleyballengland.org)

### CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

#### Volleyball England believes:

- That the safety and welfare of children should always be of paramount importance, whatever the circumstances.
- That everyone with a role in working with children has a moral and arguably a legal responsibility to safeguard and promote a child's welfare particularly when it comes to protecting children from abuse.
- That special care is needed in dealing with children whose age, inexperience or physical state makes them particularly vulnerable to abuse.

#### Volleyball England:

- Has therefore adopted this Child Protection Policy to ensure that the welfare and safety of children in VE's care or custody is always the primary consideration.
- Is committed to providing an environment where children can learn about, participate in and enjoy volleyball free from harassment or abuse.

#### The Policy is predicated on the following three principles:

1. A child's welfare is the paramount consideration.
2. A child, regardless of age, ability, gender, racial origin, religious belief and sexual orientation has a right to be protected from abuse.
3. The rights, dignity and worth of a child should always be respected.

The Children Act 1989 (as amended by The Children Act 2004) states that anyone who is involved in the care of children should "do what is reasonable in the circumstances for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child's welfare".

### BILL OF RIGHTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Young people participate in sport for many reasons including to make friends, have fun and learn new skills. Whilst competing and participating in volleyball activities young people have certain rights that should allow them to get the most from their experiences. Volleyball England believe every young person has the right:

- To participate in volleyball.
- To be treated with respect by all adults and players.
- To compete and train as a child.
- To report any problems to the Club Welfare Officer.
- To be considered for every match or competition.
- To train and compete safely and have appropriate medical treatment if required.
- To be coached by a Volleyball England qualified coach.
- To have fun.



### CHILD WELFARE OFFICERS (CWO)

The implementation of the policy and good practice guidance requires increased awareness and active involvement from all those involved in working with young people. Volleyball England have identified Child Welfare Officers as key individuals in leading this process at national, regional and club level. Such individuals will promote good practice and provide the main contact for issues related to ensuring safe recruitment of volunteers and responding to concerns/allegations or disclosures. Role descriptions, guidance and training to help in supporting these critical positions have been developed and are available [via the website](#) or on [request from the national office](#).

