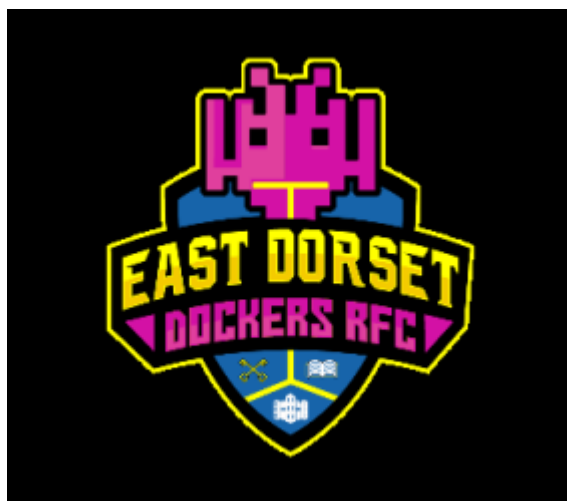




East

Dorset

Dockers

Rugby Football Club

Safeguarding Policy

1. Statement of Commitment

East Dorset Dockers RFC (EDDRFC) acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children involved in the club's activities. We are committed to providing a safe, positive, and inclusive environment where all children can enjoy rugby without fear of abuse, harm, or neglect

2. RFU Safeguarding Policy Alignment

EDDRFC fully adopts and adheres to the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) Safeguarding Policy, its procedures, practices, and guidelines, including any successor policies.

3. Definition of a Child

A child is defined as anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any rugby union activity. When a 17-year-old male is playing in the adult game, the club will take every reasonable precaution to ensure their safety and wellbeing are protected.

4. Key Principles of Safeguarding (As per RFU Policy)

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All participants regardless of age, gender, ability, disability, race, faith, culture, size, language, or sexual identity have the right to protection from harm.
- All allegations or suspicions of abuse, neglect, harm, or poor practice will be taken seriously and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.
- Partnership working with statutory agencies, parents, carers, and young people is essential to promote welfare.
- Children have the right to participate in rugby supported by appropriately recruited, vetted, and managed adults whether they are playing, volunteering, or officiating.

East Dorset Dockers RFC - Iford Lane, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH6 5NF Company
Number: 08691351

Last reviewed 3/7/2025 – Scott Curtis, Safeguarding Lead



5. Club Responsibilities

EDDRFC recognises that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone involved at the club. We are committed to ensuring that all children have the right to participate in rugby in a safe, enjoyable, and protective environment.

6. Codes of Conduct

The club adheres to the RFU Code of Conduct and the Codes for Coaches, Spectators, and Officials. All members are expected to uphold these standards.

7. Club Safeguarding Officer

Name: Scott Curtis

Mobile: 07535 469612

If you witness or are aware of an incident where a child's welfare is at risk, you must immediately report it to the Club Safeguarding Officer.

If the incident involves the Club Safeguarding Officer, contact:

Name: Morgan Leadbitter

Mobile: 07964 048327

In addition, contact the CB Safeguarding Manager or RFU Safeguarding Team.

8. Safer Recruitment and DBS Checks

All EDDRFC members who work with children in Regulated Activity must complete an RFU Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check in line with RFU Regulation 21.

9. Best Practice and Unacceptable behaviors

EDDRFC follows RFU Best Practice Guidance. The following are unacceptable and may lead to disciplinary action:

- Working alone with a child.
- Consuming alcohol while responsible for children.
- Providing or allowing the provision of alcohol to children.
- Smoking in the presence of children.
- Humiliating or belittling children.
- Inappropriate physical contact.
- Participating in or allowing contact games with children.
- Engaging in intimate or sexual relationships with a child.
- Making sexually explicit comments or sharing such material.

10. Changing Facilities

The club manages changing areas with at least two DBS-checked adults supervising when children are present. Adults must not change or shower at the same time or in the same facilities as children.

11. Training and Behavior Management

EDDRFC ensures coaches are appropriately supported and trained. We have adopted the RFU's "Managing Challenging Behaviour" Policy, and it has been circulated among all relevant staff and volunteers.

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12. Events, Tours & Safeguarding Plans

All events held at the club must comply with this policy.

Where appropriate, a Safeguarding Plan should be drafted and shared.

All tours, domestic or international, must follow RFU Tour Regulations and Guidance.

13. Policy Adoption and Review

This policy has been adopted in accordance with the club constitution.

It will be reviewed annually or after significant updates in legislation or RFU policy.

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