

Barclays Knight-Stokes Cup - Safeguarding Guidelines

Named after two of England's greatest state-educated cricketers, the Barclays Knight-Stokes Cup will be run by MCC and the MCC Foundation (MCCF). The competition aims to inspire young people to take up cricket and to increase opportunities to play the game with friends at school.

Safeguarding Policy Statement

Safeguarding is the action taken to promote the welfare of children and adults and protect them from harm. The MCC Foundation (hereinafter referred to as MCCF) has adopted the ECB's Safe Hands Policy and kit bag of safeguarding resources and is firmly committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment for participants in our UK programmes to enjoy the game.

We will do this by:

- Recognising that all Children and Adults at risk participating in cricket (regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability) have a right to have fun and be protected from harm in a safe environment.
- Ensuring that individuals involved with cricket within MCC Foundation programmes (including MCCF staff, volunteers and contracted delivery staff) provide a safe, positive and fun cricketing experience for all.
- Adopting and implementing the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) "Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children" and any future versions of the policy.
- Appointing a Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Safeguarding Lead, both overseen by a Board Lead, and ensuring they attend all current and future training modules required by the ECB and Cricket Regulator so that they have the necessary skills to be able to undertake their role effectively.
- Ensuring that all people who work in cricket at the MCCF (such as staff, coaches, matchday managers, volunteers, officials and Board members) understand that the Safe Hands Policy applies to them according to their level of contact with children in cricket. This will be done through their induction into the organisation.
- Ensuring that all individuals working within cricket within the MCCF are recruited and appointed in accordance with ECB Safer Recruitment guidelines.
- Ensuring all individuals within cricket at the MCCF are provided with support, through education and training, so they are aware of, and can adhere to, good practice and code of conduct guidelines defined by both the ECB and MCCF's own standards.
- Ensuring the name and contact details of the Safeguarding Leads are available to all UK programme participants and all staff (full time and contracted).
- Ensuring that correct and comprehensive reporting procedures exist for raising and managing Safeguarding and Child Protection concerns. Such procedures recognise the responsibility of the statutory agencies and in accordance with pre-defined Safeguarding and Child Protection procedures as set out by the ECB, Statutory Agencies and Local Safeguarding Children Board guidelines and policies.
- Providing everyone connected with cricket through the MCCF (including parents, children and volunteers) with the opportunity to voice any concerns which they have about possible/suspected risk of harm, and/or about poor practice to the MCCF Safeguarding Lead.

- Ensuring that all suspicions, concerns and allegations are taken seriously and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.
- Ensuring that access to confidential information relating to child welfare matters is restricted to the Safeguarding Leads as well as the appropriate external authorities as specified within ECB Safeguarding and Child Protection procedures.

If you have a safeguarding concern, please report this to one of the MCCF's Safeguarding Leads as soon as possible.



Izzy Gurney (MCCF Safeguarding Lead) via
mccf.safeguarding@mccfoundation.org.uk or
izzy.gurney@mccfoundation.org.uk, or 07867 639789.



Angus Berry (MCCF Deputy Safeguarding Lead, in absence of Izzy) via
angus.berry@mccfoundation.org.uk or 07585 554449.

Alternatively, you can click the link below to complete the MCCF's Safeguarding Report Form.

[MCCF Safeguarding Report Form – Fill in form](#)

Safeguarding Processes in the Barclays Knight-Stokes Cup

The Barclays Knight-Stokes Cup is exclusively for non-fee paying state secondary school teams. The MCCF recognises the robust nature of educational safeguarding systems and, as such, each school should follow their own prescribed safeguarding policies and procedures throughout participation in this competition.

Responsibilities of schools and their representatives (teachers or nominated volunteers/supervisors):

- Following their school safeguarding policies and procedures
- Appointing an adequate number of, and sufficiently trained, school representatives to accompany players at all match days
- Knowing which players do and do not have photography/videography consent and sharing this with MCCF Matchday Managers and opposition representatives in a timely manner. Please note that players will be required to complete specific consent forms in some of the national rounds associated with these consents. It should be noted that

players will need to have consent for photography, videography and livestreaming in order to participate in the finals at Lord's due to the nature of the event.

Local County Competitions – These are run in partnership between the MCCF and the local County Cricket Organisation. Any safeguarding concerns that take place in these matches should be reported to the MCCF Safeguarding Lead or the County Safeguarding Officer of the relevant County Cricket Organisation.

Regional Finals, Semi-Finals and Finals – A Matchday Manager appointed by the MCCF (either a MCCF staff member or volunteer) will be present at all of these fixtures and will be the main point of contact on the day for safeguarding queries and concerns. This Matchday Manager will escalate concerns to the MCCF Safeguarding Lead.

Code of Conduct

By participating in the Barclays Knight-Stokes Cup, each school agrees to abide by the following code of conduct. This code of conduct applies to all matches and events within the Barclays Knight-Stokes Cup. Breaches of this code of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action and could result in expulsion from the competition.

It is the responsibility of the school representatives to manage behaviour of school pupils, school staff/volunteers and affiliated spectators (eg parents of school pupils).

Players agree to comply with all reasonable instructions from school representatives, other players, MCCF staff and Matchday Managers including, but not limited to, any directives and instructions may be displayed from time to time during competition matches and events:

- Players agree to respect, cooperate with and encourage their fellow players at all times, irrespective of their abilities.
- Persecution, humiliation or ridiculing of others will not be tolerated.
- Players, under no circumstances, must make contact with a coach directly by email, text or call.
- Behaviour and dress both on and off the field should be in keeping with the dignity and best traditions of the game of cricket.
- Foul, abusive and inappropriate language at matches and events (on or off the field of play) is unacceptable.
- Intimidation, aggressive behaviour and deliberate distractions of opponents by words or actions are unacceptable.
- Dissent at umpiring decisions is unacceptable.
- The game should be played competitively, but the highest standards of sportsmanship must at all times be maintained. Recognise the achievements of both your team-mates and your opponents. Do not glory in their failures.
- Players must remember that their conduct is a reflection not only on themselves, but also on the school and the MCCF as a whole. Conduct which damages the reputation of the MCCF will not be tolerated.
- Players should keep to agreed timings for training and competitions, or inform their school representative if they are going to be late. If a player will not be attending training or a match for any reason, a school representative must be notified ahead of time for safeguarding reasons.
- Players must wear suitable kit – (this must include a helmet, box where applicable, gloves and pads when a hard ball is being used) for training and matches, as agreed with

the school representative. Helmets must be worn for all hard ball batting and wicket-keeping in practice and matches.

- Players are not allowed to consume or purchase alcohol or drugs of any kind whilst participating in the competition (this includes training sessions and matches). Players are not allowed to smoke (including e-cigarettes/vapes) whilst participating in the competition.
- Players agree to do their best at all times to improve their cricket skills and maximise their own potential, at whatever level of playing ability that may be. Any conduct by a player that prevents a player from doing the same is unacceptable.

Failure to comply with this code of conduct may result in disciplinary action being taken in accordance with the school's and/or MCCF's disciplinary procedures.

School representatives and match officials are responsible at all times for ensuring the play is conducted within the Spirit of Cricket, as well as within the Laws.

Players and Team Officials must at all times accept the umpire's decision. Players must not show dissent at the Umpire's decision or react in a provocative or disapproving manner towards an Umpire at any time. Players and Team Officials shall not intimidate, assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an Umpire, another Player or a spectator. Players and Team Officials shall not use crude and/or abusive language (known as 'sledging') nor make offensive gestures or hand signals nor deliberately distract an opponent. Players and Team Officials shall not make racially abusive comments nor indulge in racially abusive actions against fellow players, officials, members and supporters. The MCCF operates an active open door membership policy whilst respecting player qualification regulations, and welcomes players regardless of their gender, race or socio-economic circumstance.

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws, but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action, which is seen to abuse this spirit, causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the school representatives.

Players' Conduct: In the event of any player failing to comply with the instructions of the Umpire, criticising their decision by word or action, showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the Umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other Umpire and to the player's school representative requesting the latter to take action.

Fair and Unfair Play: According to the Laws, the Umpires are the sole judges of Fair and Unfair play. The umpires may intervene at any time and it is the responsibility of the school representatives to take action when required. The umpires are authorised to intervene in the cases of: time wasting, damaging the pitch, tampering with the ball, or any action that they consider to be unfair.

Spirit of the Game: The Spirit of the Game involves respect for your opponents, your own captain and team, the role of the umpires, and the game's traditional values. It is against the Spirit of the Game to: (a) dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture; (b) direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire; (c) seek to distract an opponent either verbally or with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one's own side.

Violence: There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.

Players: School representatives and Umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match, and every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.

Reporting Concerns

All safeguarding concerns that arise from events and matches part of the Barclays Knight-Stokes Cup should be reported to the MCCF's Safeguarding Lead (see contact details on page 2 of this document).

Concerns can also be reported directly to:

ENGLAND AND WALES: The Cricket Regulator, cricket's regulatory body in England and Wales, via safeguarding@cricketregulator.co.uk or 02074 321200.

IRELAND (both Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland): Cricket Ireland's Safeguarding Officer, via safeguarding@cricketireland.ie or +353 (0)858555736.

SCOTLAND: Cricket Scotland's Cricket Integrity Matters reporting form, via this link: [Cricket Integrity Matters | Crimestoppers](#). Alternatively, please call 0800 023 2101.

You can also contact the NSPCC 24 hour helpline on 0808 800 5000 (the NSPCC works in England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and the Channel Islands).

If it is an emergency because a child or children are at immediate risk, then call the Police or Children's Social Care in your area.