



ADULTS AT RISK POLICY

Bracknell Town Football Club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all adults at risk involved in our activities. We recognize our responsibility to ensure a safe and supportive environment where every individual is respected and protected from harm.

Definition of an Adult at Risk

An “Adult at Risk” refers to a person aged 18 or over who:

- **Has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs).**
- **Is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect.**
- **As a result of those needs, they are unable to protect themselves against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.**

Policy Statement

We are dedicated to ensuring that:

- **The welfare of adults at risk is paramount in all our activities.**
- **All adults, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation, have the right to be protected from abuse.**
- **We take all suspicions and allegations of abuse seriously and will respond swiftly and appropriately.**
- **All staff, volunteers, and members are aware of their responsibilities to safeguard adults who are at risk and are provided with appropriate guidance and training.**

Types of Abuse

Abuse can take various forms, including but not limited to:

- **Physical Abuse: Assault, hitting, slapping, pushing, misuse of medication, restraint, or inappropriate physical sanctions.**
- **Sexual Abuse: Rape, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, inappropriate looking or touching, sexual teasing or innuendo, sexual photography, or any sexual act to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting.**
- **Emotional or Psychological Abuse: Threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation, or unreasonable and unjustified withdrawal of services or supportive networks.**
- **Financial or Material Abuse: Theft, fraud, internet scamming, coercion in relation to an adult’s financial affairs or arrangements, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions, or benefits.**
- **Neglect and Acts of Omission: Ignoring medical, emotional, or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, care, and support or educational services, or withholding the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition, and heating.**



- **Discriminatory Abuse:** Harassment, slurs, or similar treatment because of race, gender and gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation, or religion.

Procedures for Reporting Concerns

If abuse is suspected or disclosed, the following steps should be taken:

- **Immediate Safety:** Ensure the immediate safety of the individual. If urgent medical attention is required, contact emergency services.
- **Report:** Report the concern to the Club Welfare Officer (Adult Disability Teams) as soon as possible.
- **Record:** Document all relevant information, including dates, times, observations, and any discussions.
- **Confidentiality:** Maintain confidentiality and share information only with those who need to know.
- **External Agencies:** The Club Welfare Officer will liaise with external agencies, such as the local Adult Social Care Services or the police, as appropriate.

Prevention Measures

To minimize the risk of abuse, we will:

- **Recruitment:** Implement thorough recruitment procedures, including background checks, for all staff and volunteers working with adults at risk.
- **Training:** Provide regular safeguarding training to ensure all staff and volunteers are aware of their responsibilities and the correct procedures to follow.
- **Code of Conduct:** Establish and enforce a code of conduct that outlines acceptable behavior and boundaries.
- **Monitoring:** Regularly review and assess our safeguarding practices to ensure effectiveness and compliance with current legislation and guidance.

By adhering to this policy, Bracknell Town Football Club aims to create a safe and supportive environment for all participants, ensuring that adults at risk are protected from harm and can enjoy their involvement in football.