

# *Glasgow Girls FC*

## *Child Protection Policy Introduction*

The introduction of this Child Protection Policy should be seen as a clear signal by GLASGOW GIRLS FC (now referred to in this document as GGFC) that it is determined to ensure all necessary steps are taken to protect from harm, those children and young people who participate in football at all levels. The policy establishes The Club's position, role and responsibilities and clarifies what is expected of other organizations and individuals involved in football. It very clearly highlights the importance placed by GGFC on the protection of Children and young people.

### **GGFC - The Policy**

Every child and young person who plays football should be able to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from abuse. This is the responsibility of every adult involved in football. We recognise, however, that child abuse is also a very emotive and difficult subject. It is important to understand the feelings involved but not to allow them to interfere with our judgment about any action to be taken.

GGFC recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying.

GGFC offer wide ranging football opportunities for children and young people, in doing so the club should provide the highest possible standard of care. Clear practices and procedures, in addition to a detailed training programme

already under way, will ensure that everyone knows exactly what is expected of them in relation to the protection of children and young people. It is essential that those children and young people attracted to and participating in football are able to do so in a quality, safe and enjoyable environment.

In striving to attain this, GGFC has laid the following objectives:

- A requirement that all branches of GGFC, which provides the opportunity for persons to work with children and young people up to the age of eighteen, includes this policy statement concerning child protection.
- To provide ongoing development and training opportunities to every branch of the football club.
  - To provide ongoing development and training opportunities: - for members of GGFC coaching staff. - As an integral part of all in service days with the coaches.
- All GGFC coaches & volunteers must be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure check by The SWF

**The aims of this Child Protection Policy are:**

- *To develop a positive and pro-active position in order to best protect all children and young people who play football under the GGFC banner, enabling them to participate in football in an enjoyable and safe environment.*
  - *To demonstrate best practice in the area of child protection.*
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- *To promote ethics and high standards throughout all levels of football at GGFC*

**The key principles underpinning this Policy are that:**

- The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration.
- All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual identity.

*1. Any act, statement, conduct or other matter, which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, shall constitute behavior, which is improper and shall result in a club investigation and discriminatory procedure.*

*2. In these Regulations the expression "Offence" shall mean any one or more of the offences contained in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 and any other criminal offence which reasonably causes the football club to believe that the person accused of the offence poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children.*

*3. Upon receipt by Glasgow Girls FC of,*

*3.1 notifications that an individual has been charged with an Offence*

*3.2 notification that an individual is the subject of an investigation by the Police, social services or any other authority relating to an Offence;*

*3.3 any other information which causes GGFC reasonably to believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children then GGFC shall suspend the individual from all or any specific football activity for such period and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.*

*4.0 In reaching its determination as to whether an order*

*under Regulation 3 should be made the club shall give consideration, inter alia, to the following factors: -*

- 4.1 Whether a child is or children are or may be at risk of harm;*
- 4.2 Whether the matters are of a serious nature;*
- 4.3 Whether an order is necessary or desirable to allow the conduct of any investigation by the club or any other authority or body to proceed unimpeded.*
- 5. The period of an order referred to in 3 above shall not be capable of lasting beyond the date upon which any charge under the Rules of the Association or any Offence is decided or brought to an end.*
- 6. Notification in writing of an order referred to above shall be given to the person concerned.*

**Conclusion** *Through confirming this Policy Document, GGFC has indicated its determination to ensure that children and young people can participate in all forms of football activity and do so with their safety being of paramount importance.*

*It is essential that this document is representative of a process of continual improvement in the area of child protection within the football club. It is for all adults engaged in football activities to promote good practice and procedures, whilst being ever vigilant and aware of their responsibilities towards the children and young people in their care.*

## **Coaches**

- All GGFC coaches are subject to an enhanced disclosure check ( **highest check possible**) by The SWF These disclosures can be seen at any time by any parent who either has a child who attends our community courses or plays football for one of our community teams. They can also be seen by any parent who is interested in sending their son/daughter to one of our community courses or who wishes to join one of our community teams.