



Deal & Betteshanger RFC

## SAFEGUARDING YOUR CHILD'S WELFARE

Deal and Betteshanger RFU recognises that everybody has a responsibility for protecting children. If any member of Deal and Betteshanger RFC or parent has any concerns about any child associated with the club, they should discuss them with the Club's Safeguarding Officer.

**For the season 2009/2010 the Club has appointed  
Paula McLachlan as the Club's Safeguarding Officer:  
01304 379047, 07800960874 or [paula.mclachlan@dealandbettesrfc.org.uk](mailto:paula.mclachlan@dealandbettesrfc.org.uk)**

The Club has its own Safeguarding Policy and has also adopted the Rugby Football Union's policies for Anti-bullying, Equity and Photographic policy. Copies of which are available from Paula McLachlan or at [dealandbettesrfc.org.uk](http://dealandbettesrfc.org.uk) or [www.rfu.com/welfare](http://www.rfu.com/welfare).

All our coaches, committee members and parent helpers have completed their CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) checks and are aware of the club's code of conduct.

### HOW TO REPORT AN INCIDENT

If a child tells you that someone either in or out of the rugby club environment is abusing her or him you should:

- **Listen**, do not prompt or add words
- **Reassure** the child that he/she was right to tell you
- **Be Honest** and explain that you will need to tell someone else in order to help and protect him/her
- **Share concerns** with the Club's Safeguarding Officer or Chairman of Youth Rugby. Club safeguarding procedures will then be followed
- **Accurately** record on an incident form what the child has said to you and what action you have taken. The Club's Safeguarding Officer can help you with this.

In order to protect yourselves and the children in your care, all coaches are asked to read and follow the guidelines as set by the Club's Safeguarding policy and the Rugby Football Union "The Welfare of Young People in Rugby Union Guidance". Copies of which are available from RFU website ([www.rfu.com](http://www.rfu.com)) or from Paula McLachlan 07800960874.

In all cases, if you are not sure what to do, you can gain help from the NSPCC 24-hour freephone helpline (0800 800 500) or the RFU Child Protection Line (0208 831 6655). See the Club's Safeguarding policy for more details.

**Protecting children is everyone's responsibility.  
Doing nothing is not an option.**