



Cleveland Air Magic Policy Safeguarding Children

Safeguarding Children Policy

At Cleveland Air Magic (CAM), we are committed to creating a safe and nurturing environment for all children participating in our activities. This Safeguarding Children Policy outlines our dedication to the protection and welfare of children, ensuring that their experience in our club is positive, secure, and enjoyable.

Our club recognizes the paramount importance of safeguarding children and young people. We are committed to promoting their welfare and protecting them from harm. This policy applies to all members, coaches, volunteers, and associates involved in our club activities.

Definitions

- Child: Any individual under the age of 18 years.
- Safeguarding: Measures and actions taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.
- Abuse: Any form of physical, emotional, sexual harm, or neglect that may cause significant harm to a child's health, development, or dignity.

Aims and Objectives

- To provide a safe and welcoming environment for children.
- To ensure all staff and volunteers understand their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children.
- To establish clear procedures for identifying and reporting concerns about a child's welfare.
- To promote awareness of safeguarding issues and best practices among staff, volunteers, and members.

Roles and Responsibilities

The club committee are responsible for:

- Implementing and reviewing the Safeguarding Children Policy.
- Ensuring all staff, volunteers, and members are aware of and adhere to the policy.
- Providing appropriate training and resources on safeguarding issues.

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- Ensuring all coaches and committee have valid up to date Blue Cards.
- Acting on any reported concerns or incidents of abuse.
- Promoting a safe and positive environment for children.

All staff and volunteers are responsible for:

- Understanding and following the Safeguarding Children Policy.
- Ensuring they hold a valid up to date Blue card.
- Reporting any concerns or incidents of abuse to the designated safeguarding officer.

All Members, parents, spectators and associates of the club are responsible for:

- Ensure any concerns are reported immediately. It is a shared responsibility for the safety of all minors at Cleveland Air Magic. Any member or associate of the club has a duty of care to report any concerns to the safeguarding officer.

The designated safeguarding officer are responsible for:

- The President of the club is the designated safeguarding officer.
- Acting as the main point of contact for safeguarding concerns.
- Ensuring proper procedures are followed when dealing with safeguarding issues.
- Maintaining records of safeguarding concerns and actions taken.
- Liaising with external agencies, such as emergency services and/or child protection services, when necessary.

Training and Awareness

Our club is committed to providing regular training and updates on safeguarding issues for all staff and volunteers. This includes:

- Induction training for new staff and volunteers covering safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Annual refresher training on recognising and responding to signs of abuse.

Procedure for Reporting Concerns

Any concerns about a child's welfare or incidents of abuse must be reported immediately to the designated safeguarding officer. The following steps should be taken:

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- Listen to the child and reassure them that they are being taken seriously.
- Record the details of the concern or incident, including the date, time, and any witnesses.
- Report the concern to the designated safeguarding officer as soon as possible.
- Secondary safeguarding officer would be the Head Coach or any club committee member.
- The designated safeguarding officer will assess the concern and take appropriate action, which may include contacting child protection services or the police.

Confidentiality

All safeguarding concerns and records will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. Information will only be shared with those who need to know to protect the child. All records will be securely stored and only accessible to authorized personnel.

Code of Conduct

All staff, volunteers, and members are expected to adhere to the following code of conduct to ensure the safety and well-being of children:

- Always act in the best interests of the child.
- Maintain appropriate boundaries and avoid any behaviour that could be misinterpreted.
- Report any concerns or inappropriate behaviour immediately.
- Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of every child.

Non-Compliance and Disciplinary Actions

Any violations of this Safeguarding Children policy will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include warnings, suspension, or expulsion from the club.

The severity of the disciplinary action will be determined by the club's management committee based on the nature of the violation.

Feedback and Concerns

Cleveland Air Magic values feedback from parents and guardians. Any concerns or suggestions regarding the Safeguarding Children policy should be directed to president@clevelandairmagic.org.

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Review and Amendments

This Safeguarding Children Policy will be reviewed annually by the club's Committee to ensure it remains effective and up to date. Any amendments to the policy will be communicated to members in writing and will take effect from the date specified.

Acknowledgment

By becoming a member or participating in activities Cleveland Air Magic, individuals acknowledge and agree to adhere to this Safeguarding Children Policy.

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