



SHROPSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

Anti-Bullying Policy

Statement of intent:

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all, children and adults alike so they can train and play in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable. If bullying does occur, all children should be able to tell, and know, incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a TELLING club. This means anyone who knows bullying is happening is expected to tell someone who can do something about it.

What is bullying?

Bullying is the use of actions and comments made with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can take many forms, including:

- Emotional: being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (for example: hiding kits, or making threatening gestures)
- Physical: pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist: racial taunts, graffiti and/or gestures
- Sexual: unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic: because of, or focusing on, the issue of sexuality
- Verbal: name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours and teasing
- Cyber: bullying behaviour online or via electronic communication (email and text, social media etc) Misuse of associated technology, such as camera and video facilities.

Why is it important to respond to bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one should be a victim of bullying. Everyone has the right to be treated with respect. Children who are bullying also need to learn different ways of behaving

Objectives of this policy:

- All adults and children at the club should have an understanding of what bullying is

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- All officials, coaching and non-coaching staff should know what the club policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported
- All children and parents should know what the club policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises
- As a club, we take bullying seriously. Children and parents should be assured they will be supported when bullying is reported
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

In cases of adults reported to be bullying cricketers under 18 SCB must always be informed.

A child may indicate, by signs and behaviour, that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of signs and investigate if a child:

- Says they are being bullied
- Changes their usual routine
- Changes in behaviour
- Is unwilling to go to the club
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious, or lacking in confidence
- Comes home with clothes torn or belongings damaged
- Has possessions which are damaged or go missing
- Asks for money or starts stealing money
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises
- Self-harming
- Is frightened to say what's wrong
- Gives improbable excuses for any of the above

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying is a possibility and should be investigated.

Responding and reporting

- **Report any concerns about bullying, bullying incidents to the Club Safeguarding Officer**
- In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be reported to SCB Safeguarding.
- Parents should be informed and invited to a meeting to discuss the problem
- **If necessary and appropriate, police should be consulted – for example if there has been assault, harassment or theft**



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- The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated, and the bullying stopped quickly
- An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour.

To be read in conjunction with the following policies

Complaints/Safeguarding/Safeguarding children with disabilities/
Disciplinary/Disciplinary proceedings that involve under 18's