



Youth Rugby Team Safeguarding Policy Last Updated: July 2025

## 1. Purpose

Elite Youth Rugby is committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and positive environment for all young players. This policy outlines our approach to safeguarding children and young people from harm, abuse, or neglect.

## 2. Our Commitment

- 0 Prioritize the welfare of all players.
- 0 Ensure all coaches, volunteers, and staff are vetted (e.g., background checks) and trained in safeguarding.
- 0 Promote a culture where concerns are reported and addressed promptly.

## 3. Roles & Responsibilities

- 0 **Designated Safeguarding Officer** (our CSO): Peter Hayes is the primary contact for safeguarding concerns. Contact: [CSO@EliteYouthRugby.com](mailto:CSO@EliteYouthRugby.com)
- 0 **Coaches/Volunteers**: Must follow youth safeguarding guidelines and report concerns,
- 0 **Parents/Guardians**: Support the policy and report any concerns.

## 4. Safe Recruitment

All adults working with youth players must:

- 0 Complete a background check (e.g., criminal records screening).
- 0 Provide references.
- 0 Attend safeguarding training.

## 5. Code of Conduct Summarised – see also our full Codes of Conduct

For Staff/Volunteers:

- 0 Never be alone with a child; use the "two-adult rule" where possible.
- 0 Avoid physical contact unless necessary (e.g., first aid or coaching corrections).
- 0 Do not contact players privately via personal social media/phone.



For Players:

- 0 Treat teammates, opponents, and officials with respect.
- 0 Report any concerns to a coach or the CSO.

For Parents:

- 0 - Encourage fair play and respect.
- 0 - Report concerns to the DSO (not directly confront other parents/players).

## Reporting Concerns

- 0 If a child is in immediate danger, call emergency services.
- 0 For non-urgent concerns (e.g., bullying, suspected abuse), contact the DSO.
- 0 All reports will be handled confidentially and escalated to local child protection authorities if needed.

## 7. Photography & Social Media

- 0 Parental consent is required for taking/sharing photos/videos of players.
- 0 Avoid identifying children by full name or location online.

## 8. Anti-Bullying Policy

Bullying (verbal, physical, or online) will not be tolerated. Incidents will be investigated and addressed promptly.

## 9. Review & Training

- 0 This policy is reviewed annually.
- 0 Staff/volunteers must complete safeguarding training every [1–2 years].

## 10. Contact

For safeguarding concerns, contact: [CSO@EliteYouthRugby.com](mailto:CSO@EliteYouthRugby.com)