

HASTINGS RUNNERS

CLUB WELFARE OFFICER ROLE

The Club Welfare Officer is responsible for acting as a source of expert advice about safeguarding and protecting children, promoting good practice and for co-ordinating action within the Club on receipt of any poor practice concerns or referrals. Matters of a more worrying nature must be referred to the ARC Child Protection Officer (CPO). Confidentiality regarding concerns must be maintained on a strictly “need to know “ basis. Each CWO will be expected to:

- Refer any club young or vulnerable person protection or poor practice concerns to the ARC CPO
- Seek advice from the NSPCC Helpline if the ARC CPO is unavailable or in circumstances of child protection emergency
- Seek advice from local Social Services or the Police in an emergency
- Encourage the club to discuss and implement ARC’s Protection Policy for Young and Vulnerable People
- Make the club use ARC’s Young and Vulnerable People Guidelines on recruiting volunteers, always requesting and following up references
- Insist that the DBS Disclosure be used as part of the club’s protection policy
- Encourage the club to discuss and implement ARC’s Young and Vulnerable People Guidelines on the use of images and organising travel, trips and events

- Help the club in identifying those who require a DBS disclosure
- Promote the benefits of a young and vulnerable people protection and best practice education and awareness programme

The Club's CWO should be well known in the club, and have a strong safeguarding focus. They need to be accessible to and approachable for children and young people. The designated person should have undertaken the Sports Coach UK Safeguarding and Protecting Children workshop or an equivalent training programme.