



# Guildford Mavericks

## Baseball Club

### GOOD PRACTICE IN THE CARE OF CHILDREN

#### **PRINCIPLES**

The guidance is based on the following principles:

1. The child's welfare is paramount
2. All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.
3. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

#### **GOOD PRACTICE**

- Always be publicly open when working with children. Avoid situations where a coach and individual child are completely unobserved.
- Where possible parents should take on the responsibility for their children in the changing rooms. If groups have to be supervised in the changing rooms, always ensure coaches work in pairs.
- Where there are mixed teams away from home, they should always be accompanied by a male and female member of staff.

#### **IT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE TO:**

- Spend excessive amounts of time alone with children away from others.
- Take children alone on car journeys, however short.
- Take children to your home where they will be alone with you.

If cases arise where these situations are unavoidable, they should occur with the full knowledge and consent of someone in charge of the organisation, or the child's parents.

#### **YOU SHOULD NEVER**

- Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games, including horseplay.
- Share a room with a child.
- Allow or engage any form of inappropriate touching.



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## B a s e b a l l C l u b

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- Allow children to use inappropriate language unchallenged.
- Allow allegations made by a child go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon.
- Do things of a personal nature for a child they can do for themselves.
- Invite or allow children to stay with you at your home unsupervised.

It may sometimes be necessary for coaches to do things of a personal nature for children, particularly if they are young or have disabilities. These tasks should only be carried out with the full understanding and consent of the parents and children involved. There is a need to be responsive to children's reactions. If a child is fully dependent upon you, talk with him/her about what you are doing and give choices where possible. This is particularly so if you are involved in any dressing or undressing of outer clothing, or where there is physical contact or lifting or assisting a child to carry out certain activities.

If you accidentally hurt a child, he/she seems distressed in any manner, appears to be sexually aroused by your actions, or misunderstands or misinterprets something you have done, report any such incident as soon as possible to another colleague and make a brief written note of it. Parents or carers should be informed of the incident.

Further information on BaseballSoftballUK Child Protection Procedures can be obtained from:

BaseballSoftballUK  
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74a Charlotte Street  
London  
W1P 1LR  
dmv@bsukmail.com