



Loughborough Judo Club Safeguarding Policy

December 2024

1. Purpose and Scope of the Policy

Loughborough Judo Club ("the Club") is a not-for-profit judo club based in Loughborough, UK, and a member of the Amateur Judo Association. This safeguarding policy outlines our commitment to ensuring the safety and welfare of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults who engage with our activities.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Protect children, young people, and vulnerable adults from harm while participating in Club activities.
- Provide coaches, volunteers, and participants with clear guidance on how to identify and address safeguarding concerns.

This policy applies to all members of the Club, including coaches, volunteers, participants, and visitors.

2. Legal & Guidance Framework

This policy has been developed in line with the following legislation and guidance:

- The Children Act 1989 and 2004
- The Care Act 2014
- The Equality Act 2010
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
- The British Judo Association's safeguarding framework
- NSPCC guidance on child protection

3. Principles

We believe that:

- The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is paramount.
- All people, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation, have an equal right to protection from harm.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential for promoting their welfare.



We recognise that:

- Coaches of sport are in a position of authority and must take that responsibility seriously.
- Parents and guardians of children that take part in judo place their trust in the club and its coaches to keep their children safe.
- Whilst participation in judo has inherent risks, it can and should be practiced safely with potential risks to health and wellbeing assessed and minimised.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

4.1 Safeguarding Contacts

Club Safeguarding Officer:

- Name: Alasdair Walker
- Phone: 07772 120 290
- Email: me@financialwalker.com

United Reform Church Safeguarding Contact:

- Name: Una Hubbard
- Phone: 01509 215 660
- Email: safeguarding@loughboroughurc.co.uk

4.2 Responsibilities

The Club will:

- Ensure all coaches and volunteers complete safeguarding training.
- Maintain up-to-date records of safeguarding concerns.
- Work in partnership with local safeguarding authorities and other relevant bodies.
- Adopt safe recruitment practices for coaches and volunteers.

5. Recognising and Responding to Concerns

5.1 Recognising Signs of Abuse

Abuse can take many forms, including physical, emotional, sexual, and neglect. It is important for coaches and volunteers to be vigilant and recognise signs of abuse, which may include:



- Unexplained injuries
- Changes in behaviour
- Fear of certain individuals
- Lack of personal hygiene or neglect

5.2 Responding to Concerns

If a safeguarding concern arises:

1. Listen carefully to the individual and avoid making assumptions.
2. Reassure them they are being taken seriously.
3. Report the concern to the Club Safeguarding Officer immediately.
4. Record all information accurately and confidentially.

In cases of immediate danger, contact emergency services on 999 or 112.

6. Reporting and Recording Procedures

All safeguarding concerns should be reported to the Club Safeguarding Officer who will help to complete an Incident Report Form. The Safeguarding Officer will decide on the next steps, which may include:

- Informing the relevant local authority safeguarding board.
- Seeking guidance from resources such as the NSPCC
- Notifying relevant authorities

Records of all safeguarding concerns will be stored securely and maintained in accordance with data protection laws.

7. Training and Awareness

The Club is committed to providing regular safeguarding training for all coaches and volunteers. Training will cover:

- Recognising signs of abuse
- Reporting procedures
- Safe working practices
- Managing disclosures

8. Code of Conduct

All coaches, volunteers, and participants must adhere to the following code of conduct:



- Treat all children, young people, and vulnerable adults with respect.
- Avoid being alone with a child unless absolutely necessary.
- Use appropriate language and behaviour at all times.
- Assess and minimise risks to the health and wellbeing of ourselves and others.
- Report any concerns about another individual's behaviour to the Safeguarding Officer.

9. Whistleblowing

The Club encourages a culture of openness and transparency. Any individual with concerns about safeguarding practices is encouraged to report them to the Safeguarding Officer, or the independent safeguarding contact at the United Reform Church.

Alternatively, concerns about children can be reported to the NSPCC Helpline at 0808 800 5000.

10. Further resources

- Free e-learning “keeping your child safe in sport” from the NSPCC for parents: <https://thecpsu.org.uk/keeping-your-child-safe-in-sport/index.html>
- United Reform Church Safeguarding website: <https://urc.org.uk/safeguarding/>
- British Judo Association Safeguarding: <https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/what-we-do/policies/safeguarding/>

11. Monitoring and Review

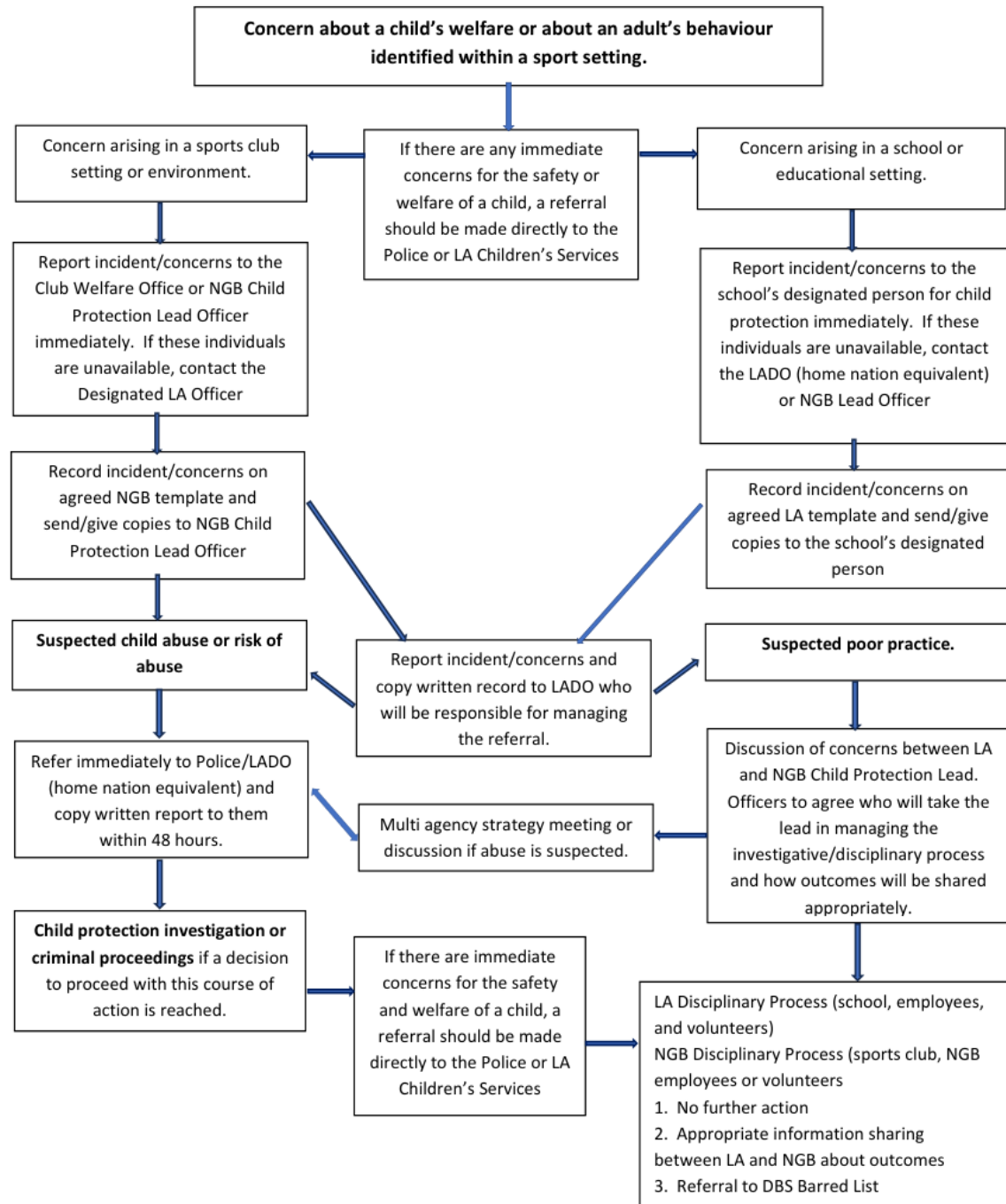
This policy will be reviewed annually or whenever there are significant changes in legislation or Club practices. The next review date is December 2025.

For further information or clarification, please contact the Club Safeguarding Officer

Appendix – Flowcharts for action

Sourced from the British Judo Association Safeguarding Guideline June 2024

Flowchart for concerns about the conduct or practice of any individual involved in the delivery of sport.





Flowchart for concerns about a child's welfare outside of a National School Sport Strategy environment

