

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

(extracts taken from the Overarching 80-09 document)

1. Any act, statement, conduct or other matter which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, shall constitute behaviour which is improper and brings the game into disrepute.
2. In these Regulations the expression "Offence" shall mean any one or more of the offences **outlined under the definitions of abuse**. These definitions are based on those from Working Together to Safeguard Children (Department of Health, Home office, Department for Education and Employment, 1999)
3. Upon receipt by The Association of:
 - 3.1 notification that an individual has been charged with an Offence; or
 - 3.2 notification that an individual is the subject of an investigation by the Police, Social Services or any other authority relating to an Offence; or
 - 3.3 any other information which causes The Association or the NABC reasonably to believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children then. The Association/ NABC shall have the power to order that the individual be suspended from any specific football activity until concerns have been investigated by the appropriate / suitably qualified authority that can confirm that individual concerned is not a risk to children / young people
4. In reaching its determination as to whether an order under Regulation 3 should be made The Association/ NABC football league will seek guidance from the FA NSPCC child protection unit who shall give consideration, inter alia, to the following factors:
 - 4.1 whether a child is or children are or may be at risk of harm;
 - 4.2 whether the matters are of a serious nature;
 - 4.3 whether an order is necessary or desirable to allow the conduct of any investigation by The Association or any other authority or body to proceed unimpeded.
5. The period of an order referred to in 3 above shall not be capable of lasting beyond the date upon which any charge under the Rules of The Association or any Offence is decided or brought to an end.
6. Where an order is imposed on an individual under regulation 3 above, The Association shall bring and conclude any proceedings under the Rules of The Association against the person relating to the matters as soon as reasonably practicable.
7. Where a person is convicted, or is made the subject of a caution in respect of an Offence, that shall constitute a breach of the Rules of The Association and The Association shall have the power to order the suspension of the person from all or any specific football activity for such a period (including indefinitely) and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.
8. For the purposes of these Regulations, The Association shall act through its Council or any committee or sub-committee thereof, including the Board.
9. Notification in writing of an order referred to above shall be given to the person concerned and/or any club with which he is associated as soon as reasonably practicable.
10. The NABC football League recognises that the welfare of the child is paramount and may at anytime suspend a manager from involvement in the league should they feel that their involvement may place a child or young person at risk
11. The NABC will report all allegations and take advice from qualified bodies
12. The NABC will only liaise with designated club welfare offices relating to safeguarding/ Child protection issues
13. The NABC has adopted the Northumberland Clubs for Young people Child Protection on confidentiality policy.