

Safeguarding and Protecting Children and Young People Policy

Policy owner	Julie Bradbury, Welfare Officer
Applies to	All National Badminton programmes, sessions, venues, staff, coaches, volunteers, participants, parents and carers
Policy approved by	National Badminton Board
Date approved	January 2026
Next review date	January 2028
Version	1.0

1. Introduction

National Badminton is committed to setting high standards and promoting a positive culture which provides a safe and inclusive environment for everyone to enjoy badminton. The importance of this has never been greater.

We accept our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people and protect them from poor practice, abuse and bullying.

This Safeguarding and Protecting Children and Young People Policy applies to all individuals involved in National Badminton activity, whether as a player, coach, member of staff, volunteer, spectator, parent or carer.

2. Principles

- 2.1 National Badminton understands that we all have a responsibility to safeguard and protect children and young people, to act appropriately, and to report concerns.
- 2.2 The welfare of the child is paramount.
- 2.3 National Badminton recognises that all participants, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability, have the right to enjoy our sport in an environment that is safe from abuse of any kind.
- 2.4 National Badminton promotes a listening culture where the views of children, parents and carers, and other participants are sought and acted upon. This helps us create an environment where people have the opportunity and confidence to raise concerns.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

- 3.1 As an organisation delivering badminton in line with Badminton England standards, National Badminton will:
- 3.1.1 Adopt and implement the Badminton England Safeguarding and Protecting Children and Young People Policy, procedures and guidelines.
 - 3.1.2 Appoint a Welfare Officer in line with the Badminton England guidelines and role description.
 - 3.1.3 Provide access to appropriate training, guidance and support, ensuring that all staff, coaches, volunteers and participants are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities.
 - 3.1.4 Implement a policy of best practice and adhere to the Badminton England Codes of Ethics and Behaviour.
 - 3.1.5 Work in partnership with parents, carers and young people taking part in our programmes.
 - 3.1.6 Ensure that all staff and volunteers working with young people are recruited according to the Badminton England recruitment guidelines, including enhanced DBS checks where required.
 - 3.1.7 Ensure that all concerns and reported cases are managed in line with Badminton England policy and procedures.

4. Prohibited Conduct

- 4.1 Best practice will be observed by all adults working or volunteering with children and young people. Practice that must be avoided includes, but is not limited to:
- Spending time alone with children and young people away from others.
 - Inviting or allowing a child or young person to stay at their home.
 - Transporting a child or young person in a car alone.
 - Engaging in rough, physical or sexually provocative games with children and young people.
 - Sharing a room with a child or young person.
 - Allowing or engaging in any form of inappropriate physical touching or sexual contact or behaviour.
 - Using, or allowing children and young people to use, inappropriate language unchallenged.
 - Making sexually suggestive comments to a child or young person.
 - Failing to respond and report concerns when allegations or disclosures are made by a child or young person.
 - Doing things of a personal nature for a young person that they can do for themselves. This does not preclude anyone attending to an injured or ill young person, or rendering first aid.
 - Departing from the venue or agreed meeting point before the safe dispersal of all children and young people is complete.

- Humiliating or undermining a child or young person, or acting in a way that negatively affects their self-esteem.
- Treating some children and young people more favourably than others.
- Creating a dependent relationship between themselves and a child or young person, or failing to maintain appropriate boundaries.
- Private telephone calls, texts, social network messages or contact, and emails without parental consent or knowledge.

5. Positions of Trust

- 5.1 An adult, aged 18 or older, in a position of authority or responsibility over a child or young person is in a position of trust. This is defined by the activity that they carry out in relation to the child, namely coaching, teaching, training, supervising or instructing, whether in a paid role or as a volunteer. This relationship can be described as one where the adult is in a position of power and influence by virtue of their role.
- 5.2 It is a criminal offence for any person in a position of trust to have a sexual or intimate relationship with a child or young person under 18 years old, even if the relationship is deemed to be consensual.
- 5.3 National Badminton will report any sexual activity, including online activity, between someone in a position of trust and a child or young person to Badminton England.

6. Reporting and Responding to Safeguarding Concerns

- 6.1 Everyone at National Badminton should feel confident to raise a concern, no matter how small.
- 6.2 National Badminton believes that sharing concerns, taking them seriously and dealing with them swiftly when they occur supports a proactive safeguarding culture.
- 6.3 National Badminton will ensure that any confidential information relating to safeguarding matters is shared appropriately and only with those who need to know. Information may need to be shared with the County Welfare Officer, Badminton England, or local agencies with statutory responsibility for safeguarding. If we are unsure, we will seek advice from Badminton England.
- 6.4 Concerns should be raised with the National Badminton Welfare Officer using the contact details set out below. Where a concern relates to the Welfare Officer, it should be raised directly with Badminton England.

Reporting a concern — who to contact

If you have a concern about the welfare of a child, young person or adult at risk, please raise it. In an emergency, or if someone is in immediate danger, call 999 first and tell us as soon as possible afterwards.

National Badminton Welfare Officer	Julie Bradbury — safeguarding@nationalbadminton.org.uk
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Badminton England Safeguarding	safeguarding@badmintonengland.co.uk · 01908 268400
NSPCC (concerns about a child)	0808 800 5000 · help@nspcc.org.uk
Childline (children & young people)	0800 1111
Ann Craft Trust (adults at risk)	0115 951 5400
Police – non-emergency	101

7. Consequences

- 7.1 National Badminton understands that it shall be a ground for action to be taken where an organisation or person over whom Badminton England has jurisdiction is found to have harmed the safety or welfare of a child or young person, or whose conduct (whether in badminton or not) is deemed to pose an actual or potential risk of harm to the safety or welfare of a child or young person in badminton.

8. Monitoring and Review

- 8.1 This policy has been developed based on the principles contained within UK and international legislation and Government guidance, complementing Local Safeguarding Children Boards' procedures.
- 8.2 This policy will be reviewed every two years, or whenever there is a major change in legislation, statutory guidance, or significant organisational change.

9. Further Information

- 9.1 This policy is supported by the following documents:
- Badminton England Safeguarding and Protecting Children and Young People Policy
 - Badminton England Disciplinary Regulations
 - Badminton England Codes of Ethics and Behaviour
 - National Badminton safeguarding information and reporting routes – nationalbadminton.org.uk/safeguarding