

## Junior Safeguarding

Chester-le-Street Golf club's safeguarding policy is in place to ensure parents, carers and members understand the vulnerability of children and young people under the age of 18 years.

Parents should consider the processes that are in place to help mitigate against child abuse, grooming and exploitation.

This is an attachment to the club safeguarding policy for juniors regarding:

- The changing rooms
- The practice area
- The course
- Playing for a club team

### The changing rooms

The changing rooms are used by all members & visitors. Parents will be aware that with limited changing/locker room space there will be occasions when adults and children may need to share the facilities. Where a parent/carer does not consent to their child accessing the changing/locker rooms, it is their responsibility to either supervise the child while in the changing rooms or ensure that they do not use them. Parents need to consider carefully whether younger children should be present in changing rooms as such areas are deemed to be of increased risk to children.

A junior needs approval from the office, should an entry card be required

### The practice area

Juniors up to the age of 18 need approval to play or practise unsupervised golf by the PGA Professional or Junior Liaison Officer (JLO) and a parent. Any approval is subject to further review, if necessary. If Juniors are not approved they MUST be accompanied at all times by a trusted adult.

### The course

To book a tee time, a junior under the age of 14 needs approval by the PGA Professional or JLO and a parent. **It is the responsibility of parents** to monitor who the junior books alongside and seek the approval of the adult members. A junior must be in at least a 3 ball if playing with an adult (if no family member present).

### Competitions

A junior must be approved to enter club competitions by the PGA Professional or JLO and a parent. **It is the responsibility of parents** to monitor who the junior is entered alongside and seek the approval of the adult members the junior is competing with. A junior must be in at least a 3 ball if playing with adults. A junior is encouraged to play in a junior competition if available.

### Teams

A junior may play in a club team, which usually is individual match play. That team, by nature, will monitor any situation. However, the junior could be on an away course in the company of a stranger. Parents need to consider the maturity of the young person and be aware of the limited monitoring by adults in the home team who will be playing in front or behind their game. After the match, a parent should check with their child that everything was okay and be alert to any suspicious behaviour.

### What to do if concerned

If any junior or parent has any concerns about safeguarding, they should contact the club welfare officer immediately. Contact details are also on the junior notice board.

Welfare Officer: Peter Shaw, [petershaw795@btinternet.com](mailto:petershaw795@btinternet.com),  
07939628582

For all the above, a consent form **must** be filled in by a parent/ guardian