



UKBJJA CLUB SAFEGUARDING POLICY TEMPLATE

Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO):

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1. Introduction Kent Grapple is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all individuals participating in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu (BJJ). This policy outlines the safeguarding responsibilities of the club, ensuring the protection of both young people (under 18) and adults at risk. It aligns with the UKBJJA Safeguarding Policies and Procedures. For the latest UKBJJA safeguarding policies, please visit: [UKBJJA Policies Page](#)

2. Policy Statement Kent Grapple recognizes its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all members and will take all reasonable steps to protect them from harm, discrimination, and abuse.

- The welfare of children and adults at risk is the club's primary concern.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial origin, religious belief, or sexual identity, have the right to protection from abuse.
- The club is committed to working in partnership with statutory agencies, parents, carers, and other organizations to promote welfare.
- Any concerns regarding safeguarding will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

3. Responsibilities

- The **Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO)** will be responsible for implementing and monitoring this policy.
- All coaches, volunteers, and staff must complete safeguarding training and undergo appropriate background checks (DBS or equivalent).
- Club members, parents, and guardians must be made aware of the policy and how to report concerns.

4. Recognizing Abuse and Poor Practice The club acknowledges that abuse can take various forms, including physical, emotional, sexual, neglect, and bullying. Signs of abuse include, but are not limited to:

- Unexplained injuries
- Changes in behaviour or confidence
- Reluctance to train or interact with others
- Excessive fear of certain individuals
- Sudden withdrawal or loss of enthusiasm for the sport



5. Safeguarding Procedures

- **Reporting Concerns:** Any concerns about a child or adult at risk must be reported immediately to the CSO. If the CSO is unavailable, concerns should be escalated to the UKBJJA Safeguarding Lead Officer.
- **Responding to Disclosures:**
 - Stay calm and listen carefully.
 - Reassure the individual that they were right to speak up.
 - Do not promise confidentiality.
 - Record details accurately and pass them to the CSO.
 - Do not investigate the matter yourself.
- **Escalation:** The CSO will decide the next steps, which may include notifying statutory authorities (Children's Social Care, Police, or UKBJJA Safeguarding Lead Officer).

6. Code of Conduct All club members, coaches, volunteers, and staff must adhere to the UKBJJA Code of Conduct:

- Treat all individuals with respect and dignity.
- Avoid situations where abuse or allegations could occur.
- Ensure that physical contact is appropriate and necessary for coaching purposes.
- Never engage in behaviour that could be considered inappropriate, including favouritism, harassment, or bullying.

7. Recruitment and Training

- In line with UKBJJA's strict membership criteria, all coaches at the club have enhanced DBS/ Enhanced Access NI/ PVG scheme membership (delete as required for your region of the UK) as well as first aid and safeguarding in sport training with a validity period of three years.

8. Whistleblowing Any individual who suspects abuse or malpractice within the club should report it without fear of reprisal. Whistleblowing policies ensure protection for those raising concerns in good faith.

9. Photography and Social Media

- No images or videos of young people should be taken without written parental consent.
- All images must be appropriate and used for coaching or club promotional purposes only.
- Social media interactions must be professional and respectful, with no private messaging between adults and young people.



10. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or in response to changes in UKBJJA safeguarding guidance.

Date of Policy Implementation: 08/04/2026

Date of Next Review: 08/04/2027