



Rochdale Golf Club Safeguarding Lead and Welfare Officer

Sandra McManus is the designated Safeguarding Lead for Rochdale Golf Club



If you have any concerns for the welfare and safety of any young person or vulnerable adult you can contact Sandra on: 01706 356881, 07939520017 or email: safeguarding@rochdalegolfclub.co.uk.

For more information on safeguarding at the club, the Club safeguarding policy and procedures to report allegations please see the club's website



Rochdale Golf Club

Safeguarding lead and welfare officer

Dear member, I thought I would take a brief moment of your time to introduce this role and myself. The Club has always had a person designated to look after safeguarding for the club and as you know, I am new in post. The club will ensure that each of us understands our obligations in terms of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults who use our club. It is also important for all of us to recognise, that because we have footpaths that run in through the site and significant numbers of schoolchildren using them, that our safeguarding obligations would extend to them as well

The context of safeguarding is as follows:

PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

Rochdale Golf Club will strive to ensure that all children remain safe and free from harm and are committed to playing a full and active part in the Multi-Agency response to Child Protection concerns. It is recognised that organisations and their staff are an important part of the wider safeguarding system for children. The purpose of this document is to ensure that all staff, members, affiliated parties and visitors are aware of the arrangements that Rochdale Golf Club have in place for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its junior members and visiting juniors. It provides guidance to help staff, parents and members who may have concerns about the safety or welfare of a child, and sets out the Club's position in relation to all aspects of the Safeguarding and Child Protection processes.

The Children Acts 1989 and 2004, states a child is anyone who has not reached their 18th birthday. The commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children however will extend to all children who visit **Rochdale Golf Club**

Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children

No single professional can have a full picture of a child's needs and circumstances. If children and families are to receive the right help at the right time, **everyone** who comes into contact with them has a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is **everyone's** responsibility. **Everyone** who comes into contact with children and their families and carers has a role to play in safeguarding children. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all professionals should make sure their approach is child-centred. This means that they should consider, at all times, what is in the **best interests** of the child.

In practical terms, if there are any issues or concerns, these should then be reported to myself as the Club's Lead Designated officer. I have worked with young people aged 16 – 19 for my entire working career and am currently the Lead Designated Safeguarding Officer for a very busy local sixth form college. I have more than 10 years of experience in managing safeguarding. On a personal note, I have been a member for around 3 years and enjoy the golf and social opportunities that our excellent club provides.

Safeguarding has to be high on our agenda to help protect vulnerable youngsters but also because we have a statutory obligation. We also have other legal obligations related to equality and diversity and we will be publishing our policies on safeguarding and procedures and our policies around equality and diversity on the website. In the meantime, if you have any questions or queries, please just get in touch.

I do not expect there to be many, if any issues, related to safeguarding to occur in the club, but in the event that they do, we all need to know the correct procedures to follow.

I look forward to meeting our junior members at the next competition, just to say hello and introduce myself

Sandra