World Amputee Football Federation (WAFF)
Safeguarding Policy for Junior Program activities

1. Purpose

The World Amputee Football Federation (WAFF) is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all junior participants in our amputee football programs. This safeguarding policy outlines the standards and procedures in place to protect children and young people from harm and ensure their well-being during WAFF-sanctioned junior camps and activities.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all WAFF staff, volunteers, coaches, contractors, and any individuals involved in the delivery or oversight of junior camp programs.

3. Principles

- **Child Protection**
  The safety, welfare, and dignity of all children and young people are our highest priorities.
- **Inclusivity**
  All participants are treated with respect and equity, regardless of race, gender, ability, background, or circumstances.
- **Transparency**
  WAFF promotes open, honest communication with children, parents, and guardians about our safeguarding practices.

4. Roles & Responsibilities

- **WAFF Staff and Volunteers**
  Must be trained in safeguarding, understand this policy, and act as positive role models.
- **Coaches**
  Must maintain safe practices, observe appropriate boundaries, and support the physical and emotional well-being of participants.
- **Parents and Guardians**
  Are encouraged to remain informed and engaged, supporting their child's involvement and welfare.

World Amputee Football Federation (WAFF)
Mateusz Widlak (President), Celeste Rosario (First Vice President), Hamid EL Aouni (Second Vice President),
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5. Code of Conduct

Staff–Child and Child–Child Relationships

1. **Respect and Equality**
   All interactions must be free from bullying, discrimination, or harassment.
2. **Professional Boundaries**
   - Physical contact must be appropriate, limited, and with the child's comfort in mind.
   - Conversations must be friendly but professional, avoiding personal or inappropriate topics.
3. **Support and Supervision**
   - Adequate adult supervision is always required.
   - Peer interactions must be guided positively, with immediate response to any negative behaviour.
4. **Confidentiality**
   Participant information must be protected and only shared on a need-to-know basis for safeguarding purposes.

6. Intervention Procedures

Reporting Concerns

- Concerns must be reported immediately to the designated **WAFF Safeguarding Officer** at safeguarding@amputeefootball.org
- Concerns may include physical, emotional, or psychological harm or inappropriate conduct.

Responding to Incidents

The Safeguarding Officer will:

- Investigate promptly.
- Take appropriate action, such as:
  - Speaking with those involved.
  - Notifying parents or guardians.
  - Contacting external child protection authorities if necessary.

Escalation

If deemed necessary, cases will be escalated to relevant external agencies to protect the child's welfare.

7. Review and Monitoring

- **Annual Review**
  The policy will be reviewed **every two years** by the Safeguarding Officer and a designated review committee.
- **Special Review**
  Triggered by legal changes or major safeguarding incidents.

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8. Record-Keeping and Archiving

- **Incident Reporting**
  All concerns must be documented in detail, including actions taken and outcomes.
- **Archiving**
  Records will be stored securely and retained for a minimum of **five years**, accessible only to authorized safeguarding personnel.

9. Support Plan for Children

- **Immediate Support**
  - A trusted adult or counselor will be assigned.
  - A safe environment will be provided for expression of concerns.
- **Ongoing Support**
  Individualized plans may include:
  - Access to counseling.
  - Regular check-ins.
  - Adjusted program participation to support recovery and confidence.

10. Child-Friendly Communication of Standards

WAFF ensures children understand our safeguarding principles by:

- Providing simplified policy materials.
- Hosting regular workshops/discussions about safety and respect.
- Clearly identifying trusted adults they can talk to.

11. Safeguarding Officer

- **Email:** safeguarding@amputeefootball.org
- **Role:** Oversees policy implementation, provides staff guidance, and responds to safeguarding concerns.

By adhering to this policy, WAFF reaffirms its commitment to ensuring all children in our programs feel safe, respected, and valued.

11/2024

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