

4 Duty of care & child protection

4.1 Sport England Clubmark Accreditation

Volleyball England has awarded Ipswich Volleyball Club with its Volley 1 Accreditation Award. The programme has helped the Club in understanding how to run the Club better, what areas needed to be worked on and given ideas of improvements on how we run things.

The Clubs' coaches and committee, all of whom are volunteers, have worked very hard to develop the Club. Members can be assured that the Club offers a quality activity and coaching programmes in line with National guidelines. Work undertaken by the Club includes training in Child Protection awareness, developing codes of conduct and undertaking coach education and qualifications.



The Volley 1 award also means the Ipswich Club gains Sport England's Clubmark award, Adam Keer Club Development Officer at Ipswich Borough Council qualifies that "by achieving Volley 1 and Clubmark, parents and children will know that the Club has been recognised by Volleyball England and Sport England for providing a safe and quality Volleyball activity".

"The Club should be immensely proud of their hard work, and the fantastic service that they are providing to local children and their community." Ipswich Borough Council's Sports Development Unit is currently a lead agency in a national pilot project to extend Clubmark standards to all sports.

Over the past few years, Ipswich Volleyball Club has not been stranger to quality standards, boasting 1 junior member selected to represent England in the U18 squad and one other member to attend the England U15 training camp when aged just 12 years old.

The Club welcome all comers and abilities. If you would like to find out more about Ipswich Volleyball Club contact Gabriele Corliano on 07795980426, visit the Club website www.ipswichvc.org.uk, or contact Maidenhall Sports Centre on 01473 433622. If you would like to know more about Sport Accreditation Awards or Sport England Clubmark contact Ipswich Borough Council's Club Development Officer, Adam Keer on 01473 433513 or via email adam.keer@ipswich.gov.uk.



4.2 Equity policy statement

This club is committed to ensuring that equity is incorporated across all aspects of its development. In doing so it acknowledges and adopts the following Volleyball England's definition of sports equity:

Volleyball England (VE) supports the principle of equal opportunities for all participants, member, representatives and employees whilst working for, or on behalf of the VE. It opposes all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination on the grounds of age, colour, race nationality, religion, ethnic or national origin, gender, marital status, sexuality, or unrelated criminal convictions, or disability.

The club respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of their sport, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality or social/economic status.

The club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy Volleyball in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse.

All club members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.

The club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously, according to club disciplinary procedures.

4.3 Child protection policy statement

The Club will abide by the Volleyball England Child Protection Policy. The Club believes:

- That the safety and welfare of children should always be of paramount importance, whatever the circumstances.
- That everyone with a role in working with children has a moral and arguably a legal responsibility to safeguard and promote a child's welfare particularly when it comes to protecting children from abuse.
- That special care is needed in dealing with children whose age, inexperience or physical state makes them particularly vulnerable to abuse.

Ipswich VC:

- Has therefore adopted this Child Protection Policy to ensure that the welfare and safety of children in VE's care or custody is always the primary consideration.
- Is committed to providing an environment where children can learn about, participate in and enjoy volleyball free from harassment or abuse.

The Policy is predicated on the following three principles:

- A child's welfare is the paramount consideration.
- A child, regardless of age, ability, gender, racial origin, religious belief and sexual orientation has a right to be protected from abuse.
- The rights, dignity and worth of a child should always be respected.

The Children Act 1989 (as amended by The Children Act 2004) states that anyone who is involved in the care of children should "do what is reasonable in the circumstances for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child's welfare".

The Club Child Welfare Officer

Eric Negus