



British Shuai Jiao Union | 英國摔跤聯盟 | BSJU



Safeguarding Update

October 2023

Everyone involved in martial arts is responsible for the care and protection of all participating children, young people and adults.

If you are concerned that someone you know is at risk of, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from the BSJU Safeguarding Team.

If the risk is immediate then report the matter to the Police and your Local Authority Safeguarding Team.



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More information

www.shuaijiao.uk/safeguarding

Welcome to the BSJU Safeguarding Update.

This newsletter brings together the latest updates from the BSJU Safeguarding Team to all associations.

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BSJU Safeguarding Accreditation

The British Shuai Jiao Union (BSJU), as part of the accreditation process offers a range of martial arts focused safeguarding online learning and development opportunities.

All BSJU martial arts associations must have safeguarding policies and procedures in place to ensure that all participants can be protected from harm. Child protection and safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and an essential component within martial arts practice. BSJU members take a collective responsibility to ensure that children and adults (who may be vulnerable) are adequately safeguarded in the martial arts setting.



BSJU Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

Any adult working in the provision of Chinese martial arts for young people and vulnerable adults, in either a paid or voluntary capacity, has a duty of care to the young people, vulnerable adults and themselves to provide a safe and caring environment. It is vital that any coach, Instructor, official or any other person assisting with young people and vulnerable adults' activities has the ability to provide patience, understanding and encouragement.

The BSJU Child Protection and Safeguarding policy and procedures: formally reviewed by the BSJU Safeguarding Team every three (3) years. However, changes to legislation and guidance may occur more frequently, these changes are included, as addendum to the policy, and included in the quarterly BSJU Safeguarding Updates.

In addition to the BSJU Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, the BSJU also offer Safeguarding online learning and webinars, the online offer is aimed at Heads of Association, Coaches and Designated Safeguarding Officers (DSOs).

The BSJU recommends that all Heads of Association, Coaches, and DSOs take a systematic approach training, combining BSJU safeguarding online learning with the BSJU safeguarding webinar.



BSJU Safeguarding Online Learning

BSJU Safeguarding Online Learning should be completed and certified, annually. This training is annual to ensure that members keep up to date with changes in legislation and guidance. This training is required for Heads of Association, Coaches, and DSOs.

BSJU Safeguarding Training

BSJU Safeguarding training should be completed face to face, and certified, every three (3) years. The annual BSJU online training compliments the face-to-face, and is mandatory for Heads of Association, Coaches, and DSOs.

BSJU Safeguarding Information and Training

BSJU Safeguarding information and training can be accessed at: www.shuaijiao.uk/safeguarding



Designated Safeguarding Officers (DSOs)

The BSJU aims to expand its network of Safeguarding and Welfare Officers. All Associations registered with the BSJU should ensure that a Safeguarding Officer has been nominated for their association.

The BSJU will arrange online and face to face training through our providers. DSOs will also be provided with guidance on the BSJU Casework Management System for managing safeguarding concerns and referrals.

DSOs will act as the regional network to support the central BSJU Safeguarding Team in identification verification and the first point of contact locally for any safeguarding concerns.

The DSO role is voluntary, and we would welcome expressions of interest from you endorsed by your Head of Association by 31 December 2023. The DSOs' Network will enable the BSJU to maintain the standards expected in safeguarding participants. Please send your expression of interest (Subject: DSO EOI) to Robert Simpson at rob.simpson@shuaijiao.uk

Prospective DSOs should ensure that that have completed the BSJU Online Learning and attended the BSJU Safeguarding Webinar. DSO specific training will be available at no additional cost to the member.

Our Commitments

The BSJU will:

- safely recruit and support all those with any responsibility related to children and adults at risk
- respond promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- respond to those that may pose a present risk
- cooperate with the police, local authority or other agencies in any investigation
- offer informed support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate assistance that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused
- seek to protect survivors of sexual abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse
- challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust
- seek to offer support, including supervision, and referral to the appropriate authorities, to any member of the Shuai Jiao (Chinese Wrestling) community known to have offended against a child, young person, or adult at risk.

Disclosure and Barring Service Checks

Criminal records checks are available to help organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors by identifying candidates who may be unsuitable to work with children or other vulnerable members of society. The government agency set up to administer these checks is the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). A number of roles, especially those involving children and/or vulnerable adults, are entitled to a criminal record check. The DBS enables many organisations to access these checks as part of good recruitment practice.

A DBS check has no official expiry date. Any information included will be accurate at the time the check was carried out. The DBS's aim is to help employers in England and Wales make safer recruitment decisions. Since 1 January 2018, Disclosure Scotland provides all basic disclosures for citizens of Scotland.

Anyone from England and Wales must obtain their check through the Disclosure and Barring Service. Both are valid documents, but you require the appropriate check for the country in which you provide martial arts services. It is required for DBS checks to be made every three (3) years, or as the role changes, as a minimum. The BSJU best practice requires members to complete an appropriate DBS check annually, as a condition of membership.

BSJU members in England and Wales may register with the [DBS Update Service](#), and provide the BSJU Safeguarding Team with the 'consent' code, to enable an appropriate DBS check to be made. BSJU members in Scotland may register with [Disclosure Scotland](#).

We hope you find the links and advice below, all together in one place, a useful reference and some help to understanding DBS eligibility and checks. Please remember, DBS is only one part of the Safer Recruitment process.



Sport England Safeguarding Code in Martial Arts

The BSJU strongly encourages all members to adopt the Sport England [Safeguarding Code in Martial Arts](#).

The Safeguarding Code in Martial Arts recognises clubs or providers in England who have demonstrated that they have reached and maintained good safeguarding standards. Your association will then be included on the Sport England map of approved associations.

Helplines

For expert advice please contact the helplines below:

- NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
- Childline: 0800 1111
- Stop It Now: 0808 1000 900
- NAPAC: 0808 801 0331
- Samaritans: 116 123
- Family Lives: 0808 800 2222
- National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247
- Action on Elder Abuse: 080 8808 8141