



Safeguarding Statement of Intent

Approved by:	BSJU Executive Board
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Introduction

The purpose of this document is to set out the policy position for the British Shuai Jiao Union (BSJU) on safeguarding children and adults at risk. It includes a statement of principles for use by all members. It also describes, in broad terms, the safeguarding outcomes, for individual members (coaches and athletes) and officials, and the organisations of which they are part.

Definition of Terms

Define key terms such as "safeguarding," "children," and "adults at risk" to ensure a common understanding among staff, volunteers, and stakeholders.

[Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) (HM Government, 2018; PDF) states that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Working Together outlines the duties of all organisations that work with children.

'Safeguarding' is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding applies to both children and adults at risk, and means:

- protection from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to the health or development
- ensuring safe and effective care
- enabling the best outcomes.

Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child.

'Children' are defined as individuals who are under the age of 18 years.

'Adults at Risk' are defined as individuals who have care and support needs and is unable to protect themselves from abuse, neglect or the risks manifesting. The [Care Act 2014](#) defines an adult at risk is someone who is aged 18 years or over and has care and support needs, whether or not they are met by the local authority.

Safeguarding adults means protecting a person's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.

Legal and Ethical Framework

The BSJU recognise and adhere to the legal and ethical framework regarding safeguarding, including legislation and guidance documents, such as:

- The Children Act 1989 (as amended).
- The Children and Social Work Act 2017
- Children Act 2004
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018
- Integrated Care Boards: from 1 July 2022, integrated care boards have replaced clinical commissioning groups as a result of the Health and Care Act 2022
- Public Health England: has now been replaced by the UK Health Security Agency and the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID), which is part of the Department of Health and Social Care, and by the UK Health Security Agency. The Chief Public Health Nurse role has transferred to OHID
- Domestic Abuse Act 2021: references to the Domestic Abuse Bill should be read as the Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- UK GDPR: references to the GDPR should be read as the UK GDPR. The UK GDPR is the retained EU law version of the GDPR. The UK GDPR sits alongside the Data Protection Act 2018

Working Together to Safeguard Children is the statutory guidance document sets out the responsibilities that all organisations in England must fulfil to safeguard children and young people (which applies to anyone under the age of 18). There are also other regulations to note, which have prompted changes to safeguarding requirements over time:

- UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018
- Information Sharing: Advice for Practitioners 2018
- Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Between Children in Schools and Colleges (guidance document) 2018
- Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018
- Childcare Act 2006 (as amended in 2018)

Leadership and Governance

The BSJU believes that 'Safeguarding children - the action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm - is everyone's responsibility'. Everyone who comes into contact with children and adults at risk, has a role to play.

The BSJU leadership take their safeguarding responsibilities seriously with the Chief Executive Officer accountable for the safeguarding portfolio.

The BSJU governance includes a network of Safeguarding and Welfare Officers. All Associations registered with the BSJU should ensure that a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) 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.

Policy

The BSJU's policy objective is to prevent and reduce the risk of significant harm to children and adults at risk from abuse or other types of exploitation, whilst supporting individuals in maintaining control over their lives and in making informed choices without coercion.

The BSJU believes that safeguarding is everybody's business with members playing a part in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse. Measures need to be in place locally to protect those least able to protect themselves. Safeguards against poor practice, harm and abuse need to be an integral part of care and support.

The BSJU aims to achieve this through partnerships between members and organisations. The State's role in safeguarding is to provide the vision and direction and ensure that the legal framework, including powers and duties, is clear, and proportionate whilst maximising local flexibility.

The BSJU aims to align with the framework and to enable professionals and others to take appropriate and timely safeguarding action working with other agencies, as appropriate.

Recruitment and Training

The BSJU maintain procedures for recruiting staff and volunteers, emphasising the importance of thorough background checks, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, and the provision of appropriate safeguarding training. The BSJU is committed to safely recruit and support all those with any responsibility related to children and adults at risk.

Code of Conduct

The BSJU outline the expected standards of behaviour for all individuals involved with the organization, including staff, volunteers, and participants. This includes guidelines on appropriate physical contact, communication, and social media usage.

The BSJU is committed to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

Reporting and Responding

The BSJU maintain procedures for reporting concerns or incidents related to safeguarding, including how and to whom concerns should be reported, and the BSJU is committed to taking appropriate action in response. The BSJU is committed to respond promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation, and to respond to those that may pose a present risk. The BSJU will arrange to 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. The BSJU is committed seeking to protect survivors of sexual abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse. The BSJU 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.

Confidentiality and Information Sharing

The BSJU's approach to confidentiality and information sharing, is appropriate and proportionate and compliant with Data Protection and Information Sharing legislation. The BSJU emphasises the need to balance confidentiality with the welfare and safety of individuals.

Risk Assessment and Management

The BSJU is committed to conducting regular risk assessments to identify potential safeguarding risks and implementing appropriate measures to manage and mitigate those risks.

Partnership and Collaboration

The BSJU is committed to working in partnership with relevant authorities, such as local safeguarding boards, to share information, seek guidance, and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk. The BSJU is committed to cooperating with the police, local authority or other agencies in any investigation.

Monitoring and Review

The BSJU is committed to regularly monitoring and reviewing safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure they remain effective, up to date, and in line with best practices. The BSJU uses the following principles to benchmark existing safeguarding arrangements to see how far they support this aim and to measure future improvements:

- Empowerment - presumption of person led decisions and informed consent
- Protection - support and representation for those in greatest need
- Prevention - it is better to take action before harm occurs
- Proportionality – proportionate and least intrusive response appropriate to

- the risk presented
- Partnership – working with member organisations and their DSOs to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse
- Accountability - transparency in delivering safeguarding.

Communication and Awareness

The BSJU communicates its safeguarding policies and procedures to staff, volunteers, participants, parents/guardians, and other relevant stakeholders to ensure a shared understanding and promote awareness.