

Welfare & Safe Sport Strategy 2025 – England Touch Association (ETA)

Vision – a future where touch rugby is not just a sport, but an enriched community of children, young people and adults who are inspired to work together to keep each other healthy and safe.

All staff, volunteers and participants should be safe and feel safe.

Progress – in the last four years, the ETA has delivered the most successful Touch World Cup in history in 2024, received both Sport England recognition in 2023 and British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) affiliation in 2022, introduced the England Youth Academy and experienced a huge growth in grass roots involvement.

Approach

Leadership – lead responsibly and be accountable. Ongoing drive to embed positive safeguarding culture in touch rugby to ensure it is free from abuse or harm.

Culture – support and cultivate a safeguarding culture, empowering all to participate without fear of harm or abuse through effective leadership, governance, and training.

Operations – ensure all ETA activities have the appropriate policies, procedures, guidance and practice to keep all staff, volunteers and participants safe.

Focus

- Promote wellbeing and safeguarding in sport;
- Prevent and protect staff, volunteers and players from harm or abuse; and
- Respond promptly and effectively manage any concerns raised.

How

- Ensure all safeguarding policy, procedure and guidance remain fit for purpose;
- Ensure all safeguarding policy, procedure and guidance are accessible to all ETA staff, volunteers and participants;

- Ensure all safeguarding policy, procedure and guidance is updated upon any changes to legislation and effectively communicated to the ETA community;
- Ensure all individuals in a position of trust have safeguarding training contextualised for consideration in touch rugby;
- Ensure all ETA representatives have access to safeguarding and welfare advice when required by emailing the Lead Safeguarding Officer safeguarding@englandtouch.org.uk;
- Ensure any welfare and safe sport concerns raised are acted upon and evaluated for organisational learning and development;
- Ensure that the voices of staff, volunteers and participants are listened to for assurances that they feel safe and are safe; and
- Ensure awareness of welfare and safe sport is promoted from grass roots through to high performance sport.

Contact

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