



Cheshire Golf Ltd.

Welcome Pack

2024 - 2025

Season

cheshiregolf.org.uk

01244 678004





Cheshire Golf Ltd.

“Success in golf depends less on strength of body and more on strength of mind.”

Arnold Palmer



Cheshire Golf Ltd.

mation or
new situation. We would be only too happy to chat with you. Please introduce yourself to the adult organisers
involved
in the supervision of your child.

Yours sincerely,

When leaving your child, make sure they have the necessary

Clear communication is vital for both parties. We may

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please speak to the relevant team organiser.

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Chair
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event due

Chair

Welcome to the our player information pack.

What follows is essential reading for each parent, carer, or responsible adult. This booklet is designed to be your 'go to' guide for all things junior golf.

It's very important to us that you find us both welcoming, friendly, and approachable. You will meet other like-minded parents on this journey, as well as a range of accomplished county representatives who are managers, coaches, and helpers.

In the first instance we'd like to put some faces to names and give you as much contact information as possible so should you have any questions then you have a ready source of information at your fingertips.

There are a range of duties we at the Cheshire Golf Union need to perform. While your child is in our environment, we have a duty of care and this booklet outlines some of those key principles and looks to provide you with the information one might expect to see from an organisation such as ours.

I will add at this point that you also have a key role to play in supporting the endeavours of your child and others in the group. We very much value a positive attitude and an atmosphere of enthusiasm.

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Chair

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Team leaders



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Guidance for Parents



Cheshire Golf Ltd. (CGL) is delighted to welcome you and your child to what we hope is the first of many events that you will be taking part in.

The positive effect of your support, as a parent, cannot be overstated. Your encouragement and positivity will have a real influence on the way your child experiences golf.

First things first – why is your child showing an interest in the sport? Is it to learn a new game? To hang out with their friends? Because they did it in school and liked it? Or because you play? It may be just the fun of hitting a ball a long way. It really doesn't matter what the reason is.

It is, however, nice to get an understanding about a child's motivation. Understanding their motivations helps us design any development plans. Your relevant team manager will have that discussion with you and your child.

We want to be able to provide the best possible experience for you and your child. We have a duty of care when we accept a child at any of our organised events. The responsibility to provide the best experience for the child is, of course, a shared one. The child, parent and the **CGL** all have different parts to play.

You'll be very pleased and expect to know that we at **CGL** take this responsibility very seriously, so we make no apology for addressing some of the more formal details of this relationship, so everyone is absolutely on the same page.

Code of Conduct for Parents/Carers of Young Golfers

As parents you are expected to:

- Positively reinforce your child and show an interest in their chosen activity. We have had parents who have chastised their child for 'poor shots or decisions'. This is not acceptable, and we would rather you stayed away or more preferably, just didn't say anything.
- Do not put your child under pressure or push them into activities they do not want to do.
- Be realistic and supportive.
- Promote your child's participation in playing sport for fun.
- Complete and return the Player Profile Form and Consents pertaining to your child's participation in activities at CUGC.
- Report and update CUGC with any changes relevant to your child's health and wellbeing.
- Deliver and collect your child punctually before and after coaching sessions/competitions.
- Ensure your child has clothing and kit appropriate to the weather conditions.
- Ensure your child has appropriate equipment, plus adequate food and drink.
- Ensure your child understands the importance of learning the Rules of Golf.
- Teach your child that they can only do their best.
- Ensure that your child understands their Code of Conduct
- Behave responsibly at CUGC events, competitions and coaching on the golf course; please do not embarrass your child.
- Show appreciation and support the coaches, volunteers, and staff at CUGC.
- Accept the decision and judgement of the officials during events and competition.

Our objectives

As a parent/carer you have the right to:

- Be assured that your child is safeguarded during their participation in the sport.
- Be informed of problems or concerns relating to your child in the supervision of your child.
- Be informed if your child is injured.
- Be asked to give your consent to things such as trips and photography.
- Raise any concerns about any aspect of your child's welfare, listen to and expect that these will be listened to and responded to in a timely manner.

As a county we will deal with any breaches of this code of conduct. Persistent concerns or breaches may result in you

being asked not to attend training, games, and/or matches, if your attendance is considered detrimental to the welfare of young participants.

When leaving your child, make sure they have the necessary equipment, including the ability to meet the requirements, please speak to the relevant team organiser.

The ultimate action should a parent/carer continue to breach the code of conduct may be the CUGC regrettably asking your child to leave the session, event, or relevant county squad.

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Safeguarding Children & Young People - A Short Guide

Golf is a universal sport for children of all age groups irrespective of background.

CUGC is committed to ensure that the sport of golf is one within which children and young people involved can thrive and flourish in a safe environment and that all children, young people and adults at risk have a fun, safe and positive experience when playing golf.

CUGC follows the England Golf Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and procedures.

You might be thinking **“What has safeguarding got to do with me?”**.

Government guidance makes it clear that ‘Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility’.

Anyone who has a negative experience of sport at a young age is less likely to become a regular long-term participant. It is important for the future of the sport as a whole, that children and young people have an enjoyable experience.

Everyone has a part to play in making that happen.

All adults should contribute to the county meeting its overall duty of care, be aware of our county’s safeguarding policy, and know what to do if they are concerned about a young person.



CUGC asks everyone to:

- Familiarise yourself with the CUGC Safeguarding Policy.
- The full copy of the CUGC Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is available on our website. www.cheshiregolf.org.uk

mation or new situation. We would be only too happy to chat with you. Please introduce yourself to the adult organisers involved in the supervision of your child.

In particular familiarise yourself with:

1. CUGC Codes of Conduct

Adults should always be aware that age-related differences exist and conduct themselves in a manner that both recognises this and prioritises the welfare of children and young people.

2. Anti-Bullying Policy

CUGC believes that every effort must be made to eradicate bullying in all its forms. The county will not tolerate bullying in any of its forms during county matches, competitions, coaching or at any other time.

3. Transport Policy

The county believes it is primarily the responsibility of parents/carers to transport their child/children to and from events.

4. Changing Room Policy

When leaving your child, make sure they have the necessary provisions for the day, including the ability to meet the need. The changing rooms are used by all members & visitors. Please advise about clothing and equipment requirements, where possible adults will avoid changing or showering at the same time as children, but parents will be made aware that with limited changing room space there will be occasions when adults and children may need to share the chair.

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5. Photography, Videoing, and the use of Social Media Policies

Think very carefully before contacting a young person via mobile phone, e-mail, or social media.

Do not accept children as contacts on social networking sites if you hold a position of trust with children/young people.

In general, stick to group communications, copy the communication to a parent and only communicate about organisational matters.



What should I do if I'm concerned about a child or young person?

A concern may involve the behaviour of an adult towards a child, or something that has happened to the child outside county activities/events.

Children and young people may confide in adults they trust, in a place where they feel comfortable.

An allegation may range from verbal bullying to inappropriate contact online, neglect, mental or emotional abuse or any form of physical or sexual abuse.

If you are concerned about a child, it is not your responsibility to investigate further, but it is your responsibility to act on your concerns and share them.

Pass the information to the CUGC Welfare Officer who will follow the county's Safeguarding procedures.

Name: Trevor Jackson
Email Address: sheppenhall@aol.com
Telephone Number: 07772 050921

If you believe the child is at immediate risk of harm, call the Police.

Other useful contacts:
NSPCC 24-hour helpline Tel: 0808 800 5000 | England Golf Lead Safeguarding Officer 01526 351824

Code of Conduct for Young Golfers



information or a new situation. We would be only too happy to help you. Please introduce yourself to the adult organisers involved in the supervision of your child.

As a young golfer taking part in CUGC activity, you should:

- Help create and maintain an environment free from fear and harassment.
- Demonstrate fair play and apply golf's standards both on and off the course.
- Treat others as you would wish to be treated yourself.
- Respect other people and their differences.
- Be organised and on time.
- Tell someone in authority if you are leaving the venue.
- Accept that these guidelines are in place for the well-being of all concerned.
- Treat organisers and coaches with respect.
- Observe any rules or instructions requested by the adults looking after you.
- You should not take part in any irresponsible, abusive, inappropriate or illegal behaviour which includes:
 - Smoking
 - Using foul language
 - Publicly using critical or disrespectful descriptions of others either in person or through text, email, or a social network site.
 - Consuming alcohol, performance-enhancing drugs, or stimulants.

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Social Media Guidance

This guidance gives procedures that will support and underpin the use of social networking and other online services within the CUGC. It is important that all members, staff, volunteers, coaches, officials/referees, board members, or anyone working on behalf of CUGC are aware of this policy and agree to the following terms.



Advice for Individual

- Do not accept children as contacts on social networking sites if you hold a position of trust with children/young people.
- Where contact through social networking sites is used for professional reasons, restrict the communication to professional content and obtain written consent from parents prior to establishing contact.
- Include a third party in any communications to children, e.g., Copy parents into communications.
- Use the privacy settings on the various sites to ensure that your content will only be viewed by appropriate people.
- Ensure that any content you place on a social networking site is age appropriate. Do not use the site to criticise or abuse others.
- Know where to direct junior members and their parents for information.
- Know how to report concerns.
- Know how to keep data safe and secure. This should include the personal contact data of individuals, such as mobile numbers, email addresses and social networking profiles.

Advice for Children

- Consider carefully who you invite to be your friend online and make sure they are who you actually think they are.
- There are websites that offer advice about protecting yourself online, such as www.ceop.gov.uk and www.childnet.com
- Make sure you use privacy settings so that only friends can view your profile.
- Remember that anything you post on websites may be shared with people you don't know.
- Never post comments, photos, videos, etc., that may upset someone, that are untrue or that are hurtful. Think about whether you may regret posting the content at a later date.
- If you are in a situation where you would be only too happy to be involved in the supervision of your child, please contact the county welfare officer or the National Governing Body Lead Safeguarding Officer (England Golf Tel: 01526 351851). Do not suffer alone. You will be listened to, and your concerns will be taken seriously.
- If you want to talk to someone anonymously, call Childline on 0800 1111, or contact them on the web at www.childline.org.uk. You can also call the NSPCC on 0800 800 5000

Advice for Parents

- Make yourself knowledgeable about social networking platforms and how they work.
- Go on the internet with your child and agree what sites are acceptable to visit. Regularly check that they are staying within the agreed limits.
- Encourage your child to talk to you about what they have been doing on the internet.
- Make sure they feel able to speak to you if they ever feel uncomfortable, upset, or threatened by anything they see online.
- Encourage children to look out for each other when they're online. Explain that it's all part of staying safe and having fun together.
- Explain to children that it's not safe to reveal personal information such as their name, address, or phone number on the internet. Encourage them to use a cool nickname rather than their own name.
- Attachments and links in emails can contain viruses and may expose children and young people to inappropriate material. Teach children to only open attachments or click on links from people they know.

Further Advice for Parents

When leaving your child, make sure they have the necessary

- **Clear communication is vital for both parties. We may need to contact you in the event that your child has become ill or if they have an accident or perhaps when there is a change of venue, meeting time or the cancellation of an event due**
If you are concerned about daily text, social media, working posts or any other use of communication technology by the county, volunteer, or members of staff, raise this with the County Welfare Officer. They will look into the matter and take appropriate action. Alternatively contact England Golf Lead Safeguarding Officer Tel: 01526 351824.
- In addition to reporting concerns to England Golf (National Governing Body), you should immediately report possible online abuse to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) or the Police. Law enforcement agencies and the internet service provider may need to take urgent steps to locate a child and/or remove the content from the internet. Where a young person may be in immediate danger, dial 999.
- Do not post/send negative or critical comments or messages about other children, staff or volunteers. If you have concerns about a person, these should be raised using appropriate channels within the county and not using social media.
- If you wish to speak to an external organisation for advice, you can contact the NSPCC helpline on 0800 800 500. cheshiregolf.org.uk

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Photography Policy

Whilst the CUGC does not seek to prohibit those with a legitimate interest in filming or photographing children participating in sporting activities it recognises that such activity should take place within an appropriate framework.

This policy applies at any CUGC event at which children under the age of 18 are participating.

Policy

The CUGC policy is as follows;

The welfare of children taking part in golf is paramount.

Children and their parents/carers and or the CUGC should have control over the images taken of children at CUGC events.

The golfing activity should not be misused purely for the purpose of obtaining images of children.

Images should not be sexual or exploitative in nature or open to misinterpretation and misuse.

The identity of children in a published image should be protected so as not to make the children vulnerable. (If the name of an individual golfer is published with their photograph to celebrate an achievement other personal contact details should never accompany the picture).

Procedure

Official/professional photographers and those using 'professional' equipment.

The CUGC requires that anyone wishing to take photographic or video images, at any CUGC event at which children under the age of 18 are participating, in an official or professional capacity or using 'professional' camera or video equipment registers their details with the CUGC Championship Office. This must be done before carrying out any such activity on the golf course (including the practice ground) or surrounding area or in the clubhouse.

Once registered an identification label will be issued as confirmation of registration. Anyone found using photographic or video equipment without an appropriate identification label will be questioned.

The CUGC reserves the right to refuse to grant permission to take photographic or video images if it sees fit.



mation or
 new situation. We would be only too happy to chat with you. Please introduce yourself to the adult organisers
 involved
 in the supervision of your child.

Parents/carers/family members of competitors

Parents, carers, and family members taking occasional informal photographs with mobile devices of their own child, ward or family member at CUGC event do not need to register their details with the CUGC.

If such photographs include other children (e.g., At prize presentation) they should not be publicly displayed or published on social media unless the prior permission of the parents/carers of all children in the photograph has been obtained.

When leaving your child, make sure they have the necessary

Clear communication is vital for both parties. We may

Concerns for the day, including the ability to meet the
 are unsure about clothing and equipment requirements,

If competitors or parents have any concerns, they should raise them by contacting the county secretary immediately.

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Anti-bullying Policy



The CUGC will:

- recognise its duty of care and responsibility to safeguard all participants from harm.
- promote and implement this anti-bullying policy in addition to our safeguarding policy and procedures.
- seek to ensure that bullying behaviour is not accepted or condoned.
- require all members of the CUGC to be given information about, and sign up to, this policy.
- take action to investigate and respond to any alleged incidents of bullying.
- encourage and facilitate children and young people to play an active part in developing and adopting a code of conduct to address bullying.
- ensure that staff, volunteers, and coaches are given access to information, guidance and/or training on bullying.

Each participant, coach, volunteer, or official will:

- respect every child's need for, and rights to, a play environment where safety, security, praise, recognition, and opportunity for taking responsibility are available.
- respect the feelings and views of others.
- recognise that everyone is important and that our differences make each of us special and should be valued.
- show appreciation of others by acknowledging individual qualities, contributions, and progress.
- be committed to the early identification of bullying, and prompt and collective action to deal with it.
- ensure safety by having rules and practices carefully explained and displayed for all to see.
- report incidents of bullying they see - by doing nothing you are condoning bullying.

Anti-bullying Policy

Bullying

- all forms of bullying will be addressed.
- everybody in the CUGC has a responsibility to work together to stop bullying.
- bullying can include online as well as offline behaviour.
- bullying can include:
 - physical pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching etc.
 - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, persistent teasing and emotional torment through ridicule, humiliation, or the continual ignoring of individuals.
 - posting of derogatory or abusive comments, videos, or images on social network sites.
 - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures, sectarianism - sexual comments, suggestions, or behaviour.
 - unwanted physical contact.
 - children with disability, from ethnic minorities, young people who are gay or lesbian, or those with learning difficulties are more vulnerable to this form of abuse and are more likely to be targeted.

Support to the parents/carers.

- parents/carers to be advised on CUGC bullying policy and practice.
- any incident of bullying will be discussed with the child's parents/carers.
- parents/carers will be consulted on action to be taken (for both victim and bully) and agreements made as to what action should be taken.
- information and advice on coping with bullying will be made available.
- support should be offered to the parents/carers including information on other agencies or support lines.

Support to the child

- children should know who will listen to and support them.
- systems should be established to open the door to children wishing to talk about bullying or any other issue that affects them.
- potential barriers to talking (including those associated with a child's disability or impairment) need to be identified and addressed at the outset to enable children to approach adults for help.
- children should have access to helpline numbers.
- anyone who reports an incident of bullying will be listened to carefully and be supported.
- any reported incident of bullying will be investigated objectively and will involve listening carefully to all those involved.
- children being bullied will be supported and assistance given to uphold their right to play and live in a safe environment which allows their healthy development.
- those who bully will be supported and encouraged to stop bullying.
- sanctions for those bullying others that involve long periods of isolation, or which diminish and make individuals look or feel foolish in front of others, will be avoided.

Useful contacts

CUGC Welfare Officer, Trevor Jackson,
Email: sheppenhall@aol.com
Tel: 07772 050921

NSPCC Helpline Tel: 0800 800 5000

ChildLine Tel: 0800 1111/ www.childline.org.uk

Kidscape www.kidscape.org.uk

Anti-Bullying Alliance www.anitbullyingalliance.org.uk

England Golf Lead Safeguarding Officer Tel: 01526 351824

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Curzon Park North, Chester. CH4 8AR

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Cheshire Union of Golf Clubs

