



# Prestwich Cricket Club



## Club Policy - Missing Child

A Missing Child can be traumatic for all involved, but the Club, in compliance with ECB guidelines has adopted a Policy for dealing with such a situation, in the unlikely event of this occurring. By following this Policy, the Club believes we will minimise panic and ensure that the child can be found in an organised and efficient way.

If a child, for whom the Club has responsibility, goes missing, the following guidelines have been devised to clarify the actions the Club will take:

- Before organising a search for the missing child, the Club will ensure that other children in our care are looked after appropriately
- The Club will inform the child's Parent / carer, if they are present at the event, or nominate an appropriate person to telephone them and advise of the concern and reassuring them you are doing all you can to locate their child.
- Organise all available responsible adults by areas to be searched. It is best to take a short time to organise the search properly so that all places are searched fully
- Send searchers immediately to any exits to the venue to ensure the child has not left, and to any obvious potential danger spots such as nearby lakes or rivers
- Search the area in which the child has gone missing including changing rooms, toilets, public and private areas and the club's grounds.
- Request all those searching to report back to a nominated adult at a specific point
- This nominated person should remain at this reference point and make a note of events, including a detailed physical description of the child. This should include approximate height, build, hair and eye colour as well as the clothing the child was wearing and where and when they were last seen.
- A report should go to the police no later than 20 minutes after the child's disappearance is noted, even if the search is not complete. If the police recommend further action before they get involved, follow their guidance
- If the police act upon the concern, always be guided by them in any further actions to take.
- At any stage when the child is located, ensure you inform all adults involved including the parents, searchers and the police if, by then, they are involved
- All missing child incidents **MUST BE** notified at the very earliest opportunity to the Club Welfare Officer, who must immediately notify the County Welfare Officer, and they must then notify the ECB Safeguarding Team.