



England
Rugby

PLANNING & RUNNING SAFE TOURS FOR CHILDREN

Webinar presented by RFU Safeguarding Team
7th March 2024

WELCOME



- **Introductions**
- **Housekeeping**
- **This webinar will be recorded and made available**
- **Pre-asked questions will be answered as part of this webinar**
- **Attendees are muted throughout this webinar**
- **Further questions may be put in the chat box and will be answered in a follow-up FAQs document**
- **Please be respectful when posting in the chat box and do not provide any personal details or mention any specifics**

AIM & AGENDA

AIM & PURPOSE:

- To provide those responsible for planning and managing children's rugby tours and overnight stays with additional safeguarding guidance to assist with running successful and safe tours, through an informative webinar.

AGENDA:

1. Overview of Tours
2. Consent to tour – CB and overseas considerations
3. Tour Checklist and Risk Assessments
4. Safer recruitment inc. DBS checks
5. Alcohol and conduct
6. Insurance signposting
7. Organisational learning



OVERVIEW

- **What do we mean by Tour?**
- **RFU Regulation 10 covers touring and should be read in conjunction with tour resources**
- **Tour planning and management should not fall solely to Club Safeguarding Officers or Tour Managers – it requires a club-wide effort**



CONSENTS

- The RFU has delegated responsibility to Constituent Bodies (CBs) to provide consent for out of Union tours – all age grade tours, whether incoming or outgoing, require consent from the CB.
- It is at the discretion of CBs if they require approval for all 'Tours' that are not out of Union.
- You must contact your CB for their requirements and forms required to complete and be compliant local arrangements and with RFU Regulation 10.
- Parents/carers should be informed as soon in advance of the intended tour as possible, so they can make informed decisions for their child to attend, including providing written consent where necessary.
- If children are travelling abroad without their parents then the rules regarding parental consents must be followed. You might be asked for the letter at a UK or foreign border. The letter should include the supervising adult's contact details and details about the trip.



CHECKLIST & RISK ASSESSMENTS

- Clubs should read through the planning checklists and risk assessments for tours, which outlines key areas to consider and found within the tour guidance.

Checklist

- The checklist helps clubs prepare for tours, including planning, communicating, personnel, club home contact, transport, and accommodation.
- It assists those who are planning and managing with who is completing which tasks, by when, and what budget. It is not exhaustive, but a template for clubs to consider the main tenants of what is required.

Risk Assessments

- Risk assessments help clubs consider and understand risks posed and how to mitigate their risk. Undertaking a robust risk assessment will go a long way in the preparation of a successful tour. Some areas that need to be considered are:
 - Accommodation
 - Travel
 - Supervision and Ratios
 - Activities



SAFER RECRUITMENT & DBS CHECKS

- **Safer recruitment checks should be done with any new staff/volunteer coming on tour, regardless of whether they are a parent or 'well-known' to your organisation**
- **All DBS checks must be undertaken and cleared through the RFU – we do not accept certificates from other organisations.**
- **If the club facilitate, in any way arrangements for an adult to supervise a child other than their own, they will require a DBS check.**
- **Adults attending the tour who only have a responsibility for their own child do not need a DBS.**
- **Adults who enter into a private arrangement with another parent to undertake supervision or responsibility of their child do not need a DBS.**



ALCOHOL & CONDUCT

THE PURPOSE OF THE TOUR IS FOR THE CHILDREN'S BENEFIT AND FOR THEM TO ENJOY RUGBY IN A DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENT

- The welfare of the child is paramount
- Excess alcohol consumption leading to poor or inappropriate conduct by adults is something that is commonly reported to the RFU
- Adults should be sensible and responsible on tour – while it may be an opportunity to socialise, the focus of the tour is around the children's enjoyment in rugby and experience
- The Club's Code of Conduct, which applies to touring and all tourists should understand and comply with this to keep them safe. Remind tourists of this beforehand and during the tour
- No parent, tourist or volunteer should do anything that may place a child at harm
- One or two adults should be nominated to drive in an emergency who have not been drinking. Nonetheless, supervision guidance still applies



INSURANCE

- Clubs must ensure appropriate insurance for rugby tours are in place:

When liaising with insurers, the club must be clear about:

- The nature of both the main activity and other potential organised activities
- Age(s) of participants
- The travel arrangements
- What the insurance covers
- Who the insurance covers

Visit <https://www.howdengroup.com/uk-en/england-rugby-insurance/tours> for details.



ORGANISATIONAL LEARNING

- "Failing to plan is planning to fail"
- Get house (club) in order early
- Risk to children
- Risk to club's reputation
- Representing your club/England Rugby
- All safeguarding concerns need to be raised with RFU Safeguarding Team



NEXT STEPS

- Trips, Tours and Overnight Stays Guidance will be available on 12th March 2024 and communicated via the Community Game Update, and located under the Rugby Tours section of the RFU website
- All CSOs will be emailed with a document in response to questions posed through tonight's chat function.
- If you have any specific questions on safer recruitment and DBS eligibility for touring, please email dbseapp@rfu.com
- For any general questions relating to safeguarding on tours, please email safeguarding@rfu.com
- Remember - please liaise with your CB on their requirements for touring.





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