

POLICY ON MISSING CHILDREN

OBJECTIVE: Boldmere SC is committed to a club environment in which all children¹ participating in its activities are not at risk following as a result of their participation in a training session/gala/meet.

¹ A child is defined as any young person under the age of 18.

Most children are found within a few minutes of their disappearance. However, if a child for whom **Boldmere SC** has responsibility goes missing, the following guidelines have been devised to clarify actions that will be taken.

- 1) Other young people who are in the care of Boldmere SC will be looked after appropriately while a search is organised for the young person concerned.
- 2) The young person's parent will be informed (if present at the event). Alternatively, a Volunteer/Club Official will nominate an appropriate person to telephone them and advise them of the concern.
- 3) A search will be organised using all available responsible adults.
- 4) The areas to be searched will include: changing rooms, toilets, public and private areas and the surrounding grounds.
- 5) All adults involved in the search will be asked to report back to a nominated adult at a specific time & location.
- 6) The nominated person co-ordinating the search will make a note of all of the relevant facts, including a detailed physical description of the young person including approx. height, build, hair and eye colour as well as clothing he/she was wearing and where he/she was last seen, as this will be required by the police. **If the search is unsuccessful, then the nominated person will inform the police NO LATER THAN 30 MINUTES AFTER THE YOUNG PERSON'S DISAPPEARANCE IS NOTED EVEN IF THE SEARCH IS NOT COMPLETE.**
- 7) If the police recommend further action before they get involved, their guidance will be followed.
- 8) The nominated person will be guided by the police regarding any further actions that should be taken.
- 9) If appropriate, the incident will be referred ASAP to the ASA ICPO.

The Committee of **Boldmere SC** will review this policy at regular intervals to ensure that it is effective and is achieving its stated objectives.