



CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

AMS is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children in its care. It recognises the responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. Staff and volunteers will work together to embrace difference and diversity and respect the rights of children and young people.

AMS & AMsoccer Club affiliates to the Scottish Football Association (SFA) and the Club recognises the policies of the governing body, as set out in the SFA Child Protection Policy & Procedures Guide. This document outlines the Clubs' commitment to protecting children.

These guidelines are based on the followings principles:

- The welfare of children is the primary concern.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm and abuse.
- Child protection is everyone's responsibility.
- Children have the right to express views on all matters which affect them, should they wish to do so.
- Organisations shall work in partnership together with children and parents to promote the welfare, health and development of children.

The Club will:

- Promote the health and welfare of children by providing opportunities for them to take part in football safely.
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of children.
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well being of children and protect them from abuse.
- Recruit, train, support and supervise its staff, members and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children from abuse and to reduce risk to themselves.
- Require staff, members and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and these procedures.
- Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse of children in line with this Policy and these procedures as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy and these procedures.

Review

This Policy and these Procedures will be regularly reviewed:

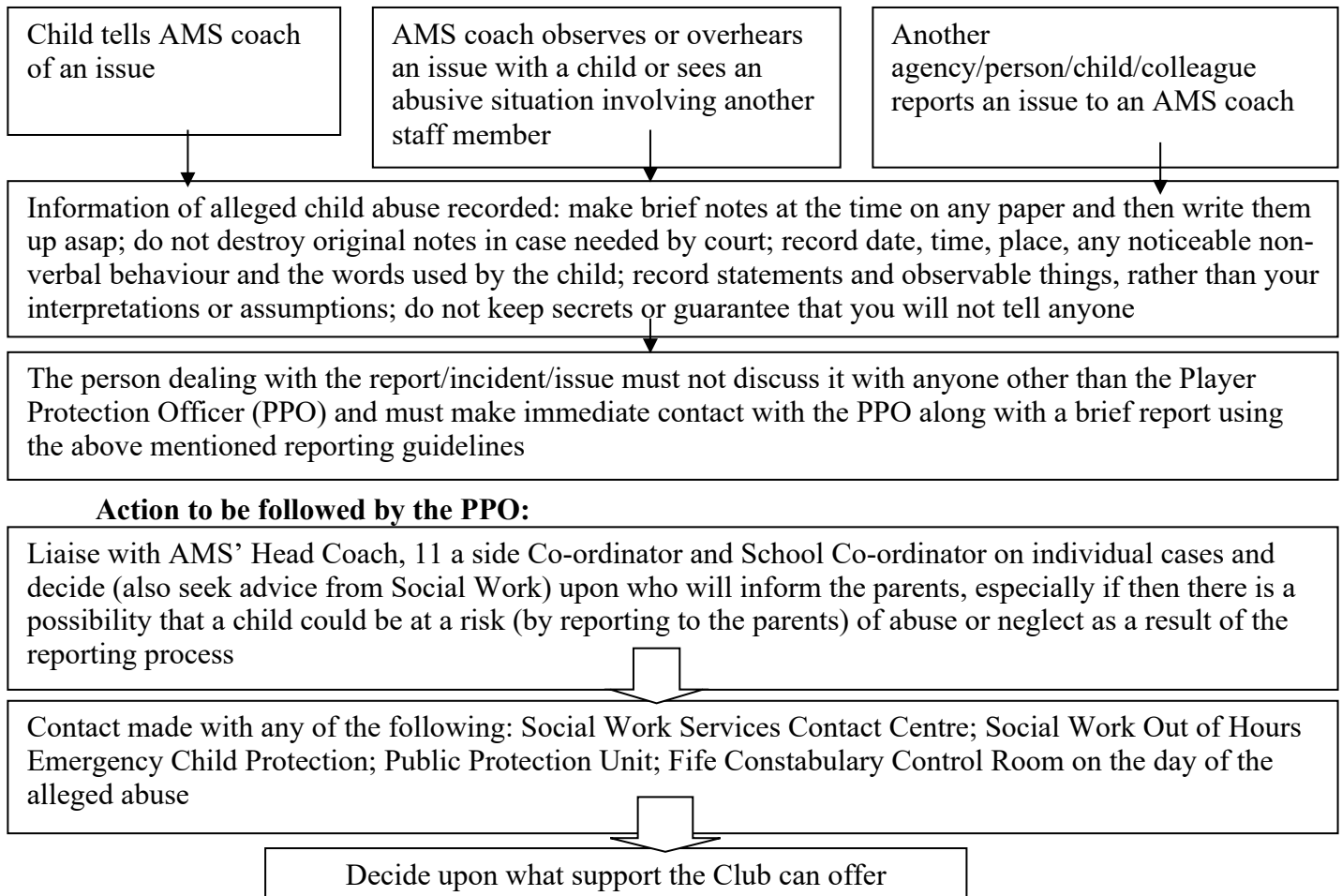
- In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection of children or following any changes within the Club.
- Following any issues or concerns raised about the protection of children within the Club.
- In all other circumstances, at least every three years.

Chair:

Date:



FLOWCHART FOR REPORTING ALLEGED ABUSE - **Sourcing the initial information:**



NB: In all instances at AMS the processes for Child Protection should be followed and also actively developed over time to most importantly safeguard the children we coach and also to ensure that coaches are aware of how to conduct themselves at sessions, some of these are listed below and will be expanded on at Coach Education, Child Protection Workshops, Committee Meetings, etc.

NEVER: engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games like horseplay, picking up, tickling, rolling about; allow or engage in appropriate touching; make sexually suggestive comments to or about a child even in fun; reduce a child to tears for control; allow allegations made by a child to go unrecorded or not acted upon; invite or allow children to stay with you at your home; do things of a personal nature for children that they can do for themselves.

AVOID: having favourites as this could lead to false allegations; spending excessive amounts of time alone with children away from others; entering changing rooms and toilets unless in emergency situations or an issue of Health and Safety arises.

TRANSPORTING CHILDREN: request permission for AMS coaches/volunteers/taxi drivers to transport young people in their cars; ensure all cars/vans/taxis/minibuses are insured; aim to try and have male and female supervisors where possible; ensure all safety measures are taken like seatbelts etc.