



AMATEUR KABADDI FEDERATION OF INDIA (AKFI) SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Federation-wide policy for safeguarding children, adult athletes, adults at risk, coaches, officials, staff, volunteers and accredited persons.

Policy Commitment

The Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India (AKFI) recognises that safeguarding is a governance responsibility and a core condition of participation in sport. Kabaddi must be delivered in an environment where every person is treated with dignity, respect and protected from abuse, exploitation, neglect, harassment, discrimination and unsafe practice.

AKFI adopts a zero-tolerance position toward physical, emotional, psychological and sexual misconduct. Athlete welfare shall prevail over competitive advantage, reputation, selection outcomes or performance results.

Safeguarding applies before, during and after participation and extends to training venues, camps, travel, accommodation, competition environments, meetings, digital spaces and all federation activities.

Safeguarding Framework for Kabaddi

All individuals connected with AKFI share responsibility for safeguarding. Leaders create culture, coaches create environments and participants contribute to respectful conduct.

Every athlete has the right to:

- train and compete safely;
- be heard and treated fairly;
- access appropriate support;
- raise concerns without fear of retaliation;
- have privacy and confidentiality respected.

Behaviour that is prohibited includes abuse of authority, inappropriate physical contact, grooming, humiliation, bullying, hazing, intimidation, discriminatory behaviour, coercion, exploitation, retaliation, unsafe training methods and misuse of athlete information or images.



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Standards of Conduct and Positions of Trust

Persons in positions of trust must maintain professional boundaries at all times.

Coaches, officials, team managers and support personnel shall:

- act only in the best interests of athletes;
- avoid one-to-one situations that create avoidable safeguarding risk;
- communicate professionally and transparently;
- never engage in sexual or exploitative relationships with minors or persons under their authority;
- never misuse influence for personal benefit.

All interactions must preserve dignity and respect regardless of age, gender, ability, religion, background or status.

Safe Participation During Camps, Events and International Competition

AKFI and affiliated units shall apply safeguarding controls during camps, championships and international events.

These measures include appropriate supervision, accommodation planning, transport arrangements, emergency support, welfare access and clear escalation pathways.

Special care shall be taken where children or adults at risk participate. Overnight stays, room allocation, travel supervision and medical support shall be planned with safeguarding considerations integrated into event operations.

Digital communication and social media use must remain professional. Images, recordings and personal information shall only be collected and shared for legitimate sporting purposes.

Reporting, Response and Case Management

Any participant may report a safeguarding concern in good faith.

AKFI shall maintain designated safeguarding reporting arrangements and respond promptly to concerns. Immediate protective measures may be implemented where necessary to reduce risk.



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Safeguarding responses shall prioritise safety, preserve confidentiality and ensure procedural fairness.

Investigations shall be independent, timely and documented. Depending on circumstances, outcomes may include education measures, warnings, suspension, accreditation removal, exclusion from events, disciplinary proceedings or referral to competent authorities.

Governance, Education and Continuous Improvement

AKFI shall maintain safeguarding leadership arrangements and promote awareness across all levels of Kabaddi.

Safeguarding education shall be integrated into athlete, coach and official development programmes.

This policy shall be periodically reviewed and strengthened through learning, stakeholder engagement and event experience. Every person associated with AKFI shares responsibility for creating a culture where people can participate safely, perform confidently and be treated with dignity.

Declaration

All persons participating in AKFI activities acknowledge their responsibility to uphold this policy and support a safe and respectful sporting environment.