



CHOOSING THE RIGHT SPORTS CLUB

What to look for ...	Questions to ask and further information	Yes / No
Seal of approval	Has the club been properly accredited by external organisations or recognised by its governing body for adopting best practice?	
Good reputation	Does the club have a good reputation? If so what for? (Ask other members about their experiences)	
Good management	Can you see clear leadership? Do they communicate regularly with all parties within the club, including you as parents?	
Culture and ethos	Does the club have a clear culture and ethos? Does it fit with your requirements? (Think about game time, number of teams, development etc)	
Open door policy	Is the Club open and prepared to listen to any feedback or concerns?	
Safeguarding policy	Is there a clear procedure for dealing with concerns about poor practice or risks of abuse? You should know who you and your child can talk to.	
Safeguarding training	Do all staff and volunteers have up-to date and recognised safeguarding training?	
Named Welfare Officer	Is the club prepared to listen and advise if you have any concerns?	
Safe recruitment check policy	Is there a clear job description, appropriate references, criminal records checks (eg DBS) for relevant posts?	
First aid	Does the organisation have guidance on first aid (and ideally a qualified first aider)?	
Code of Conduct	Is there a Code of Conduct that shows what is required of all parties involved in the club, including the children?	
Venue and equipment	Are the venue and the equipment safe for use? Are pitches clear? Is the equipment regularly checked?	
Consent and emergency contact details	Have you been asked to complete a form which includes all details about you and your child (medical etc)?	
Social contact with	Does the club ensure that all relationships are appropriate	

other members	between members?	
Qualified coaches	Are coaches suitably qualified? Are coaches competent to deliver and oversee the sport or activity safely.	
Acceptable coach to participant ratio	Does the club ensure that there is an appropriate coach to participant numbers ratio? Does this follow club protocol?	
Internal and external competition	Is it appropriate to your child's needs and requirements?	
Away fixtures	Does the club communicate effectively about events? (Transport, arrangements etc)	
Provide fun and enjoyable experiences	Are all activities appropriate? (Particularly in coaching sessions but also in all areas of club life for example fundraisers etc)	