



Safeguarding Plan

May 2026-June 2026

Juta Petersoo, Child and Youth Protection Officer



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1. PREAMBLE AND PURPOSE

This Safeguarding Plan has been developed for the UEFA European Under-17 Championship final tournament hosted in Estonia.

The purpose of this plan is to ensure that all children and young people participating in the tournament are protected from harm and can take part in football in a safe, respectful, inclusive and enjoyable environment. This plan follows the principles set out in UEFA Child and Youth Protection guidance and establishes clear preventive and responsive measures for the tournament.

Children may participate in this event as:

- Players
- Ball kids
- Mascots
- Ceremony participants
- Volunteers under 18 (if applicable)
- Spectators participating in youth activities

The welfare of every child is the responsibility of everyone involved in the event.

2. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

This safeguarding plan applies to:

- All tournament matches, activities, and side events
- All staff, volunteers, chaperones, and contractors
- All participating teams and delegations
- All safeguarding concerns, allegations, or incidents

3. DEFINITIONS

- Child: Any person under 18 years of age
- Safeguarding: Preventive and responsive actions to protect children
- Abuse: Physical, emotional, sexual abuse, neglect, bullying, or grooming
- CYPO (Child and Youth Protection Officer): Designated safeguarding lead
- Safeguarding concern: Any suspicion or evidence of harm

These definitions are aligned with international child protection standards.

4. EVENT DETAILS

Competition: UEFA European Under-17 Championship Estonia 2026

Host Country: Estonia

Participating National Teams

- Estonia
- Belgium
- Croatia
- Denmark
- France
- Italy
- Montenegro
- Spain

Tournament Period: 25.05.2026-07.06.2026

5. OFFICIAL LOCATIONS

5.1 Official Hotel

* Radisson Blu Hotel Olümpia, 33 Liivalaia Street, 10118 Tallinn

* Park Inn by Radisson Meriton, 27 Toompuiestee, Paldiski mnt 4, 10149 Tallinn

The official hotel partner will host participating delegations and selected tournament personnel. Appropriate safeguarding and security arrangements will be maintained throughout the event.

5.2 Match Venues

The official match venues are:

- Lilleküla staadion
- Kadrioru staadion
- Kalevi Keskstaadion
- Rakvere linnastaadion

5.3 Training Facilities

The following training facilities may be used during the tournament:

- Lilleküla Training Ground , Jalgpalli tänav 21, Tallinn, Estonia
- TNTKKotka 12, 11315 Tallinn, Estonia
- Keila Stadium, Keila, Ehitajate tee 13, Keila, 76606 Harju maakond, Estonia
- Maarjamäe Stadium, Tuulenurga 1, Piritä, 12011 Harju maakond, Estonia
- Männiku Stadium, Võidu 16, 11213 Tallinn, Estonia
- Saku Stadium, Staadioni 2, Saku, 75501 Harju maakond, Estonia
- Maardu Stadium, Karjääri tn4, Maardu, 74116 Harju maakond, Estonia

6. SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES

The tournament is committed to the following principles:

- The best interests of the child come first
- Every child has the right to feel safe
- Respect, equality and inclusion for all participants
- Zero tolerance for abuse, bullying, discrimination or neglect
- Concerns must be acted upon immediately
- Everyone has a duty to report safeguarding concerns

7. KEY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 Event Organiser / LOC

The Local Organising Structure is responsible for:

- Implementing this safeguarding plan
- Ensuring safeguarding measures are operational at all venues
- Appointing a Child and Youth Protection Officer
- Coordinating with UEFA, venues, teams and service providers
- Ensuring staff and volunteers receive safeguarding information

7.2 Child and Youth Protection Officer (CYPO)

The appointed CYPO is the main safeguarding contact for the tournament.

Responsibilities include:

- Oversight of safeguarding arrangements
- Receiving and managing concerns or reports
- Advising staff, volunteers and teams
- Coordinating referrals where necessary
- Maintaining safeguarding records
- Supporting incident response

CYPO Contact Details

Juta Petersoo

lasteheaolu@jalgpall.ee

+372 5177 319

7.3 Participating Teams

Each team is responsible for the welfare of its players and delegation members, including:

- Appropriate supervision
- Safe conduct
- Internal team discipline
- Reporting concerns to the CYPO where required

Each team should identify a safeguarding contact person. The name and contact details of the designated safeguarding contact person must also be shared with the Tournament Child and Youth Protection Officer (CYPO) prior to the start of the competition.

7.4 Staff, Volunteers and Contractors

All event staff must:

- Follow codes of conduct
- Maintain professional boundaries
- Respect children's privacy and dignity
- Never engage in abusive, inappropriate or discriminatory behaviour
- Report concerns immediately

8. KEY SAFEGUARDING RISKS FOR THIS TOURNAMENT

The following risks have been identified:

Access and Accreditation

- Unauthorised persons accessing children or team areas
- Unclear identification of staff

Supervision

- Participants left unsupervised
- Poor coordination during movement between locations

Transport

- Delays or separation during travel
- Unsafe pick-up or drop-off arrangements

Accommodation

- Inappropriate room allocation
- Lack of supervision in hotel areas

Conduct

- Bullying, harassment, abuse or poor practice

Privacy

- Misuse of changing rooms
- Unauthorised photography or filming

Online Safety

- Inappropriate online contact
- Misuse of social media

Medical / Welfare

- Lack of emergency information
- Delayed response to injury or distress

Missing Child / Missing Participant

- Child separated from group or team

9. PREVENTIVE MEASURES

9.1 Safer Recruitment

Where applicable, staff and volunteers working with children must be recruited using safer recruitment principles, including:

- Identity verification
- Relevant references
- Background checks where required
- Role briefing and training

9.2 Training and Awareness

All relevant staff and volunteers must receive safeguarding information before deployment.

This may include:

- Reporting procedures
- Professional boundaries
- Recognising concerns
- Venue-specific safeguarding arrangements

9.3 Accreditation and Access Control

At all official sites:

- Accreditation must be worn visibly
- Restricted areas must remain controlled
- Only authorised personnel may enter child or team zones
- Security teams must support safeguarding arrangements

9.4 Supervision Standards

Children and youth participants must be appropriately supervised at all times.

This includes:

- Matchday activities
- Training sessions
- Venue transfers
- Hotel movements where relevant
- Media and ceremony activities

Lone working with children should be avoided wherever possible.

9.5 Hotel Safeguarding Measures

At the official hotel:

- Team floors or designated areas will be controlled where possible
- Room allocations managed by teams
- No unauthorised access to player areas
- Shared spaces monitored by responsible adults
- Clear procedures for emergencies or concerns

9.6 Transport Safety

For official transport:

- Approved transport providers only
- Clear schedules and pick-up points
- Headcounts where required
- Team officials responsible for players in transit

9.7 Privacy and Changing Areas

Children are entitled to privacy.

Therefore:

- Changing rooms are restricted areas
- No unauthorised adults or media access
- No photography or recording devices in changing areas
- Respectful supervision only where necessary

9.8 Media, Photography and Digital Safety

- Media access must be authorised
- No child should be forced to participate in media activity
- Interviews should be supervised when appropriate
- Personal data must be protected
- Social media use must respect child safety and dignity

9.9 Food, Hydration and Welfare

Participants must have access to:

- Drinking water
- Appropriate meals/snacks
- Medical support
- Welfare support if distressed or vulnerable

10. RESPONSIVE MEASURES

10.1 Reporting Concerns

Any safeguarding concern must be reported immediately to the CYPO or designated senior event lead.

Concerns may include:

- Abuse
- Bullying
- Inappropriate behaviour

- Welfare concerns
- Missing child
- Unsafe practice

10.2 Immediate Response Priorities

When a concern arises:

1. Ensure immediate safety of the child
2. Contact emergency services if required
3. Inform CYPO
4. Record factual information
5. Preserve confidentiality
6. Take further action as directed

10.3 Allegations Against Staff or Volunteers

Any allegation involving event staff, volunteer or contractor must be escalated immediately.

Measures may include:

- Temporary removal from duties
- Restriction of access/accreditation
- Referral to authorities
- Internal investigation procedures

10.4 Record Keeping

All concerns and incidents must be documented securely and confidentially.

11. MISSING CHILD / MISSING PARTICIPANT PROCEDURE

If a child or participant is missing:

1. Inform security and CYPO immediately
2. Confirm last known location and time seen
3. Conduct immediate search of nearby area
4. Notify police if necessary
5. Inform team official / parent / guardian as appropriate
6. Record all actions taken
7. Review incident afterwards

12. COMMUNICATION AND CONTACTS

The following contacts must be available to relevant staff:

- Child and Youth Protection Officer
- Deputy Safeguarding Contact
- Event Director
- Security Manager
- Medical Lead
- Local Emergency Services
- Police 112
- Child Helpline (Estonia) +372 116 111

13. DOCUMENTATION

The following documents should be maintained where applicable:

- Risk Assessment
- Incident Reports
- Contact Lists
- Staff Briefing Records
- Consent Forms (for mascots, ball kids, ceremony children etc.)
- Venue-specific procedures

14. REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Safeguarding Plan has been developed for the UEFA European Under-17 Championship final tournament hosted in Estonia.


15. CONCLUSION

The safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a shared responsibility.

All persons involved in the tournament are expected to contribute to a safe football environment where every participant is treated with dignity, respect and care.

Keeping children safe and football fun is everyone's responsibility.

APPENDIX 1

Incident Reporting/Record Form	
Date of incident:	
Location:	
Time:	
Name of child/adult involved:	
Their role at the event:	
Date of Birth:	
Gender:	
What is the concern? (include details of the person whose behaviour has raised concerns)	
What actions have you (or someone else) taken? (Please provide Information of actions, and names and contact numbers of others that have taken action):	
Do you have any other comments or recommendations?	
Your name:	
Your role at the Event/relationship to person above:	
Easiest contact number to provide feedback (e.g. mobile phone number):	
Please pass this form to the Tournament Safeguarding Lead: Child and Youth Protection Officer (CYPO): Juta Petersoo  lasteheaolu@jalgpall.ee	

+372 5177 319

Comments/Actions:

APPENDIX 2

SAFEGUARDING CODE OF CONDUCT For Staff, Volunteers, Officials and Contractors

All persons working, volunteering or providing services at the UEFA European Under-17 Championship Estonia 2026 are expected to maintain the highest standards of behaviour and contribute to a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for all participants.

This Code of Conduct applies to all staff, volunteers, officials, contractors and any other accredited persons involved in the tournament.

By participating in the tournament, you agree to comply with the following standards:

1. Respect and Inclusion

- Treat all children, young people and adults with dignity, fairness and respect.
- Promote equality, diversity and inclusion at all times.
- Do not engage in bullying, harassment, victimisation or discriminatory behaviour of any kind.
- Support a positive, safe and enjoyable environment for everyone.

2. Child-Centred Approach

- Always place the welfare, wellbeing and best interests of the child first.
- Recognise that all children have the right to feel safe and protected.
- Act in a way that promotes confidence, participation and enjoyment.

3. Professional Behaviour

- Behave professionally, responsibly and with integrity at all times.
- Use appropriate language and tone in all situations.
- Never use abusive, intimidating, humiliating or offensive behaviour.
- Do not make inappropriate jokes, comments or gestures.

4. Supervision and Boundaries

- Children remain the responsibility of their participating teams unless formally assigned otherwise.
- Ensure children are appropriately supervised during tournament activities.
- Avoid being alone with a child wherever possible.
- Work in open, observable and transparent environments.
- Never invite a child to your room or enter a child's room unless authorised and necessary.
- Never share a bedroom alone with a child.

5. Physical Contact

- Any physical contact must be appropriate, necessary and proportionate.
- Never use physical punishment, aggression or force.

- Never engage in inappropriate or unwanted physical contact.

6. Sexual Conduct

- Never engage in any sexual activity or sexual relationship with a child.
- Never make sexually suggestive comments, jokes or gestures towards a child or any participant.
- Never behave in a way that could be interpreted as grooming or exploitation.

7. Privacy and Personal Dignity

- Respect the privacy of children at all times.
- Changing rooms, toilets and accommodation areas must be treated as private spaces.
- Do not enter these areas without authorisation or a legitimate safeguarding reason.
- No photography, filming or recording is permitted in private areas.

8. Communication and Social Media

- Do not use personal phones, messaging apps or personal social media accounts to contact a child unless specifically authorised as part of your role.
- Any communication with children must be appropriate, transparent and, where possible, through approved channels.
- Do not share personal information of children or their families.
- Do not post images, videos or information about children without appropriate consent and authorisation.

9. Alcohol, Smoking and Substances

- Do not knowingly allow a child to purchase, possess or consume alcohol, tobacco, nicotine products or other harmful substances.
- Do not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while carrying out your duties.
- Promote healthy and safe behaviours at all times.

10. Medical and Welfare Incidents

- If a child or participant is injured, unwell or distressed, seek medical or welfare assistance immediately.
- Follow tournament emergency procedures.
- Inform the responsible team official and safeguarding lead where appropriate.

11. Reporting Concerns

- Report any safeguarding concern, allegation, disclosure, suspicious behaviour or poor practice immediately.
- Follow the tournament reporting procedures.
- Record factual information only.
- Do not promise confidentiality where a child's safety may be at risk.

12. Compliance with Tournament Rules

- Wear accreditation visibly at all times.
- Access only areas relevant to your role.
- Follow venue safety, security and safeguarding procedures.
- Cooperate with tournament officials and safeguarding staff.

13. Breaches of this Code


Any breach of this Code of Conduct may result in:


- Removal from duties
- Withdrawal of accreditation
- Disciplinary action
- Referral to relevant authorities
- Removal from the tournament environment

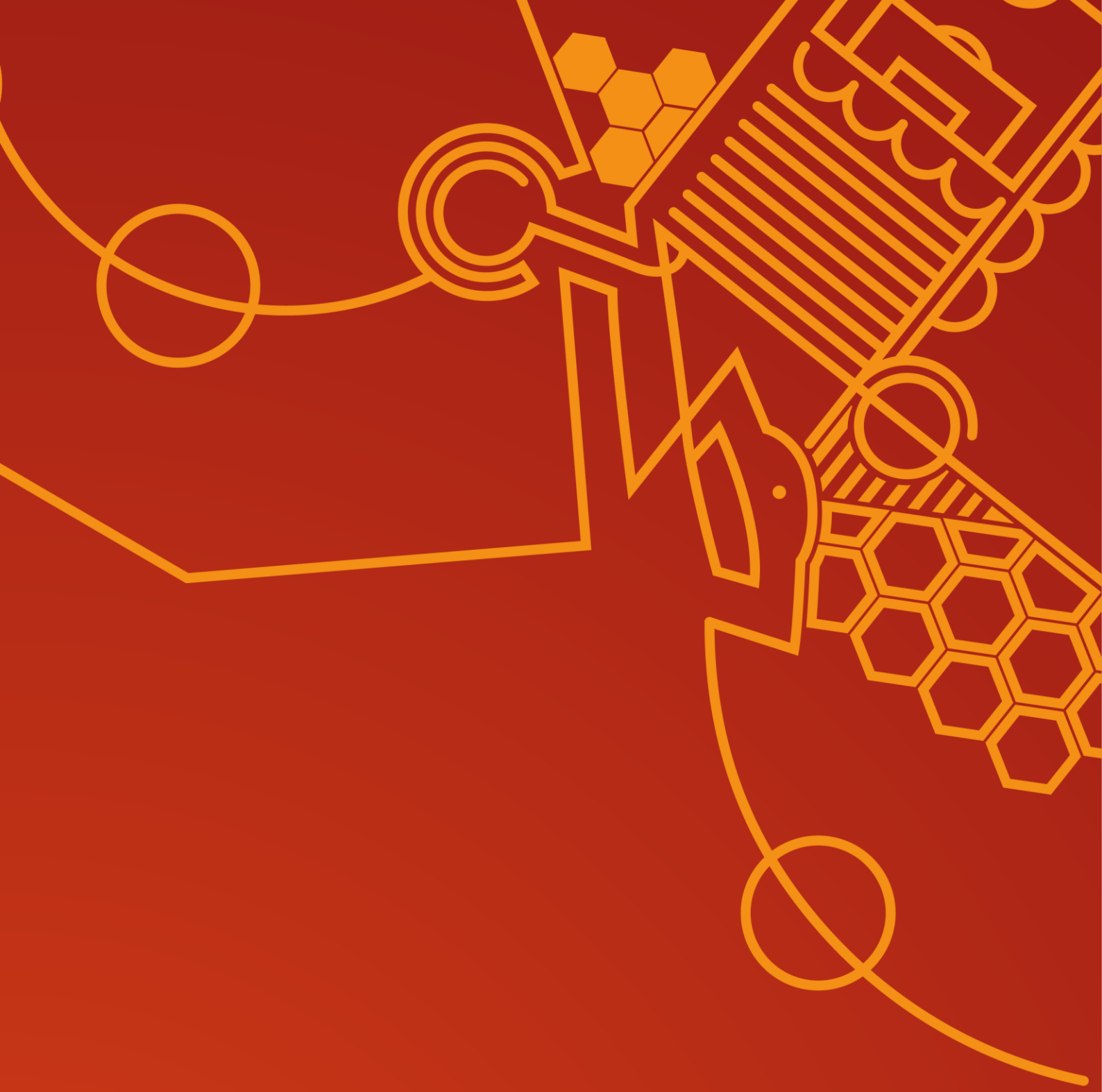
14. TOURNAMENT SAFEGUARDING CONTACT

Child and Youth Protection Officer (CYPO)

Juta Petersoo

 lasteheaolu@jalgpall.ee

 +372 5177 319



UEFA
ROUTE DE GENÈVE 46
CH-1260 NYON 2
SWITZERLAND
TELEPHONE: +41 848 00 27 27
TELEFAX: +41 848 01 27 27
UEFA.com

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