

# **Solihull Chess Club Safeguarding Policy Statement**

*1) This policy will apply to all members and visitors to the club when undertaking club activities. It is for the benefit of children and vulnerable adults.*

*A child or junior member is defined as anyone under the age of eighteen.*

*A vulnerable adult is defined as a person over the age of eighteen who may need community care services because of a disability (mental or otherwise), age or illness.*

*The normal venue of the club is:-*

*The Blossomfield Club Ltd  
The Wardens Widney Lane  
Solihull B91 3JY*

*2) The Club welcomes all players who can play chess to a reasonable standard. It allows and encourages junior players to participate in club activities and events both home and away.*

*The club does not offer formal tuition in the game of chess.*

*The purpose of this policy is to safeguard the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults attending club activities.*

*3) A copy of this policy will be posted on the Solihull Chess Club website.*

*4) Solihull Chess club recognises that the welfare of and interests of children and vulnerable adults, are paramount in all circumstances enshrined in the Children Act 2004, and The safeguarding Vulnerable Group Act 2006. It aims to ensure that, regardless of age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, identity, or socioeconomic background, all children and vulnerable adults:-*

*a. Have a positive and enjoyable experience of chess in a safe and protected environment.*

*b. Are protected from harm and abuse whilst participating in chess and related activities.*

*To achieve these aims we have adopted the protocols of the English Chess Federation Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Groups Policy*

*and Code of Conduct, a copy of which can be found on the ECF website [www.englishchess.org.uk](http://www.englishchess.org.uk), and also in the Manual of Safeguarding established and maintained by Solihull Chess Club. We have also drawn on the protocols and the policy of The Birmingham and District Chess league, a copy of which can be found in the BDCL handbook. The protocols of both organisations have been adapted to suit the domestic circumstances of Solihull Chess Club.*

*5) The club has appointed a Safeguarding Committee headed by a Safeguarding Officer to oversee the implementation of this policy during club activities. The Safeguarding Officer is: **Roland Robson***

*6) It is the duty of everyone at the club to pass on concerns or allegations of child abuse or neglect to the Safeguarding Officer who will investigate such concerns in accordance with ECF guidelines.*

*7) All parents/guardians are required to escort their charges to the club premises at the beginning of club activities, and to collect them at the end, or to provide written permission for them to be either unaccompanied, or accompanied by another club member.*

*8) The club welcomes players participating in club activities at premises other than the home venue. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide escorted transport to and from such a venue, and to remain with their charge during the event, or to give written permission for the player to be escorted and monitored by another club member during that event.*

*9) The club strongly recommends that parents/guardians should provide, in writing, satisfactory contact details such as home or mobile telephone numbers when junior or vulnerable players are engaged in club activities.*

*This policy will be regularly reviewed by the Safeguarding Committee to ensure that it remains fit for purpose.*

**Signed** .....

**Date** .....