

Lichfield Chess Club

Safeguarding Policy

Lichfield Chess Club is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for all players to enjoy chess and be respected by others.

This Safeguarding Policy sets out the minimum requirements to ensure all players can take part in our club activities.

Overview

Lichfield Chess Club (“the Club”) welcomes to its sessions and other activities all players who are interested in chess. The Club will strive to ensure that everyone is treated with care and respect.

Everyone is responsible for ensuring that our high standards are upheld and that Safeguarding is at the forefront of our considerations.

Lichfield Chess Club recognises that the welfare and interests of children, young people, and vulnerable adults are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or identity, or socioeconomic background, all members and visitors:

- have a positive and enjoyable experience of chess in a safe and sociable environment;
- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children, young people, and vulnerable adults;
- value, listen to, and respect children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

The Club has adopted a Safeguarding policy as below.

This policy applies to all members of, and visitors to, the Club when undertaking Club activities. A child in this context is deemed to be anyone under eighteen years of age.

A copy of the policy will also be posted at on the Club’s website with printed copies made available upon request. It is a condition of membership that all members of the Club have read, abide by, and promote this policy.

The Club will appoint a Safeguarding Officer and Deputy Safeguarding Officer, who will both be required to have a basic DBS check.

Any Safeguarding, child welfare concerns or allegations, and any comments or questions regarding the policy or advice should be directed to them.

The current holders of the posts are:

Safeguarding Officer at: [email](#)].

Deputy Safeguarding Officer at: email

Any allegations or concerns will be listened to and investigated. If deemed necessary, they will be pursued, by the Club's Safeguarding Officer in accordance with the English Chess Federation's Safeguarding Policy and Guidelines, which are available for viewing on the Federation's website at www.englishchess.org.uk

Children

The Club welcomes children to its sessions and events. It also allows children of an appropriate level to participate in inter-club matches and league matches.

The Club and its officials are not able to act 'in loco parentis' at any club session, event, or match. Parents/carers/guardian are ultimately responsible for the child and need to consider the wellbeing, safety and good behaviour of children when deciding on any arrangements.

This policy sets out to safeguard the welfare of children attending the Club by protecting them from physical, sexual, and emotional harm or abuse.

Parents/carers/guardians remain responsible for their child when they are attending any Club activity. They should accompany their child to sessions, remain on the premises in sight of the child, and escort their child home. Any alternative arrangements made with other responsible adults should be put in writing and agreed with the Safeguarding Officers in advance.

Older children that are 16 years of age but still under the age of 18 should have written permission from a parent or other responsible adult to be allowed to attend the Club alone and to travel home alone. Such written permission should be emailed or clearly communicated in writing to the Safeguarding Officers in advance of the sessions.

The Club also, where appropriate, welcomes the participation of children in inter-club matches away from the Club's regular venues. Parents/carers/guardians remain responsible for their child and any arrangements made. Ideally, they should accompany their child to away venues and it is a requirement that any alternative arrangements concerning transportation or supervising children at away venues is put in writing to the Safeguarding Officers in advance.

Clear arrangements and responsibilities should also apply to any visiting children and responsibility for this will lie with the visiting team members. A copy of this policy will be provided to all visiting teams in advance of the fixture.

Adult Players

All adults, regardless of age, ability or disability, gender, race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital, or gender status have the right to be protected from abuse and poor practice and to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment.

The Club will seek to ensure that our chess is inclusive and make reasonable adjustments for any ability, disability, or impairment that is notified to us.

Adequate records should be maintained relating to all safeguarding matters, both to demonstrate that appropriate policies are adopted and followed and that any complaints are addressed and resolved expeditiously and with due diligence.

Summary

The Club shall abide by any rules and regulations set out by the English Chess Federation and/or the Local League Committees and any rules and regulations that the club committee and chair deem necessary for the appropriate application of and adherence to this policy, including relevant rules and policies of the venue.

This policy will be reviewed and updated from time to time in line with experience and recommended practice in the area of Safeguarding and child protection.

Date :

Signature: