

Safeguarding Policy

1. Commitment to Safeguarding

Hatfield Lawn Tennis and Bowls Club Ltd is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for all its members, especially vulnerable individuals. We take safeguarding seriously and have established this policy to ensure that all members, including children and vulnerable adults, are protected from harm, abuse, and exploitation while participating in bowls activities or attending the club.

2. Responsibilities

- All members, coaches, volunteers, and staff have a responsibility to act in a way that promotes the well-being of everyone in the club and helps prevent harm.
- Club members are encouraged to report any concerns regarding safeguarding, whether involving adults or minors, to the designated safeguarding officer (DSO).
- The club will take all concerns seriously and act swiftly to address any issues.

3. Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

The club has appointed a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) to oversee safeguarding matters and provide guidance. The DSO is responsible for:

- Ensuring safeguarding policies and procedures are followed.
- Receiving and addressing any concerns raised about the safety or well-being of individuals within the club.
- Providing support and advice to members on safeguarding issues.

4. Safeguarding Training

- All coaches, and key club personnel will undergo appropriate safeguarding training to ensure they understand how to recognise and respond to safeguarding concerns.

5. Reporting Concerns

- If you have a concern about the safety or well-being of an individual at the club, it must be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible.
- If you feel the issue requires immediate attention, please contact the relevant authorities (e.g., police, local safeguarding board).

6. Code of Conduct

- All members and volunteers must adhere to the club's code of conduct, which includes treating others with respect, dignity, and fairness.
- Bullying, harassment, discrimination, or any form of abuse will not be tolerated within the club.
- Members must be mindful of their behaviour, ensuring that their actions do not put others at risk or make them feel unsafe.

7. Safe Recruitment

The club ensures that all individuals working with children or vulnerable adults are subject to appropriate background checks and interviews to verify their suitability.

8. Confidentiality

Safeguarding concerns will be handled with the utmost confidentiality. Only individuals with a legitimate need to know will be informed of concerns, and information will only be shared in line with legal or safeguarding requirements.

9. Monitoring and Review

This safeguarding policy will be regularly reviewed to ensure it remains up-to-date and effective. Any amendments or updates will be communicated to all members.

Acknowledgment

By becoming a member of Hatfield Lawn Tennis and Bowls Club Ltd, all individuals acknowledge that they have read, understood, and agree to adhere to this safeguarding policy. The club reserves the right to take appropriate action should a member fail to follow the policy.