**Kenilworth Cricket Club's Welfare Policy**

Kenilworth Cricket Club (the "**Club**") acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who attends any Club cricket activity, and is committed to ensuring that all children and young people participating in cricket with the Club have a safe and positive experience. A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any Club cricket activity.

We subscribe to the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) “Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children – Safe Hands” (and will continue to subscribe to any future versions of the policy) and support the Policy Statement contained in that document.

We do this by:

* Recognising that all children participating in cricket (regardless of age, gender, race religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability) have a right to have fun and be protected from harm in a safe environment.
* Ensuring that individuals working within cricket at or for the Club provide a safe, positive and fun cricketing experience for children.
* Appointing a Welfare Officer and ensuring that our Welfare Officer attends all current and future training modules required by the ECB so that they have the necessary skills to be able to undertake their role effectively.
* Ensuring that all people who support the Club cricket activities for our children and young people (such as officials, volunteers who act as our team managers and coaches etc.) understand that the policy applies to them.
* Ensuring that all individuals who support the Club cricket activities for our children and young people are recruited and appointed in accordance with ECB guidelines as well as those of the Club and are provided with the support they feel they need through education and training so that they are aware of and can adhere to good practice and code of conduct guidelines defined by the ECB.
* Ensuring that the name and contact details of the Welfare Officer for the Club is available:
	+ as a point of contact for parents, children and volunteers within the Club;
	+ as a local source of procedural advice for the Club, its committee and its members;
	+ as the main point of contact within the club for the ECB County Welfare Officer and the ECB Safeguarding Team, and
	+ as the main point of contact within the Club for relevant external agencies in connection with child welfare.
* Ensuring that correct and comprehensive reporting procedures exist for raising and managing safeguarding and child protection concerns. Such procedures recognising the responsibility of the statutory agencies and in accordance with pre-defined safeguarding and child protection procedures as defined by the ECB.
* Providing everyone connected with the Club (including parents, children and volunteers) with the opportunity to voice any concerns which they have (about possible suspected child abuse, and/or about poor practice) to the Welfare Officer.
* Ensuring that all suspicions, concerns and allegations are taken seriously and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.
* Ensuring access to confidential information relating to child safeguarding matters is restricted to those who need to know in order to safeguard children – including the Club Welfare Officer and the appropriate external authorities, such as the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), as specified within ECB child safeguarding procedures.