

# MEONSTOKE TENNIS CLUB SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURE FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

## Who might be at risk?

Vulnerable adults, young people and children can be vulnerable to abuse and are sometimes unable to protect themselves for all kinds of reasons, including physical or learning disability, a mental health problem, or because of young/old age or fragility. Those who need care and support should be able to trust and depend on everyone they rely on for help.

## What is meant by abuse?

Abuse is anything that harms another person and might include:

- **physical abuse** such as hitting, pushing or locking someone in a room
- **verbal abuse** such as shouting and/or swearing
- **emotional abuse** such as bullying, taunting or humiliating someone
- **sexual abuse** such as inappropriate touching, forcing someone to take part in any sexual act against their will
- **financial abuse** such as misusing, withholding or taking someone's money
- **neglect** such as not providing necessary food, care or medicine
- **discrimination** such as ill treatment due to the person's age or gender,
- **radicalisation** by online grooming

No abuse is acceptable and sometimes it is a criminal offence.

## Who might carry out abuse?

Those who need support have to trust and depend upon a wide range of people who offer them help in many forms. But unfortunately abuse can happen anywhere and can be carried out by anyone such as:

- parents, family, friends, neighbours
- paid staff, carers, volunteers
- medical, social care and other professional people
- other club members
- strangers

- in fact, anyone

### What should you do if you think someone is being abused?

**Safeguarding vulnerable adults, young people and children is everyone's responsibility. Do not assume that someone else is doing something about the situation. However, do not attempt to deal with the matter yourself unless it is an emergency.**

- If anyone is injured or unwell, call a doctor or ambulance as necessary.
- If you think a crime has been committed, contact the police straight away.
- To report your concerns, **make a factual record of events** of what has happened and any action you take, when doing this try not to lead. Report your concerns to the Tennis Club's Safeguarding Representative (Kate Cook 01489877050).

### Who to contact

**For Tennis Club coaches, volunteers, committee members and club members.**

- If the person is seriously hurt/unwell phone **999**
- If you think a crime has been committed phone **101**
- Inform your Group's Safeguarding Representative, **Kate Cook 01489877050.**
- Or report to a tennis club committee member who will ask the Club's Safeguarding Representative to follow up directly with you.
- If you cannot contact the Safeguarding officer (in the case of a child/young person) contact the NSPCC on 08088005000

### Please remember to Safeguard yourself as well!

If you have any concerns about your own safety when working/playing please report it to the Club's Safeguarding Representative immediately.