



Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis and Croquet Club **Safeguarding Policy (Children & Adults at Risk)**

1. Policy Statement

Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis and Croquet Club ('SCTCC') is committed to ensuring that all children, young people, and adults at risk who participate in our activities are safeguarded and protected from harm.

The welfare of every participant is paramount. All members, volunteers, coaches, and trustees share responsibility for safeguarding and for creating a safe, inclusive sporting environment.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- Children and young people under 18 years of age.
- Adults at risk of harm (as defined by the Care Act 2014).
- All trustees, volunteers, coaches, members, parents/carers, and visitors.

It covers all activities organised under SCTCC, whether Cricket, Tennis, Croquet or related events.

3. Safeguarding Principles

We will:

- Safeguard and promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. Place the welfare of participants above all else.
- Create a safe, positive, and inclusive environment for sport.
- Ensure all concerns are taken seriously and acted upon promptly.
- Recognise and respect differences in age, ability, culture, race, religion, gender, and sexual orientation.
- Comply with statutory safeguarding guidance and National Governing Body (NGB) requirements.

4. Roles & Responsibilities

- **Trustees/Committees** – hold ultimate responsibility for safeguarding in the Club.
- **Playing Section Safeguarding/Welfare Officer(s) are:**
 - The first point of contact for safeguarding concerns.
 - Liaise with NGBs (ECB, LTA, Croquet Association) and statutory agencies.
 - Ensure safeguarding training and DBS checks are completed.
- **Coaches & Volunteers** – must act as role models, follow safeguarding procedures, and complete required training.
- **Members & Parents/Carers** – expected to follow Codes of Conduct and report concerns.



5. Safer Recruitment

SCTCC will:

- Use safe recruitment procedures for all staff/volunteers working with children or adults at risk.
- Require DBS checks where appropriate.
- Provide role descriptions outlining safeguarding responsibilities.
- Ensure safeguarding induction and training is completed.

6. Codes of Conduct

The Club has adopted Codes of Conduct for:

- Players/Participants
- Coaches/Officials
- Parents/Carers

These set clear standards of behaviour and reinforce safeguarding principles.

7. Recognising Abuse & Harm

Abuse can take many forms:

- Physical, emotional, sexual abuse, neglect
- Bullying and harassment (including online)
- Discriminatory abuse (race, religion, disability, gender identity)
- Financial exploitation (adults at risk)

All concerns, however small, must be reported.

8. Reporting Concerns

- **Immediate Danger:** Dial 999 (police).
- **Safeguarding Concern at Club:** Report to the Playing Section Club Safeguarding/Welfare Officer.
- **If not appropriate or urgent:**
 - **Cricket:** Report via ECB safeguarding (Safe Hands).
 - **Tennis:** Report via LTA safeguarding system (020 84877000).
 - **Croquet:** Report via the Croquet Association safeguarding officer.
 - Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for child protection (01392 384964).
 - Child Line 0800 1111
- Concerns can also be raised under the SCTCC's Whistleblowing Policy.

Reports will be handled sensitively, confidentially, and in line with statutory guidance.

Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis & Croquet Club, The Fortfield, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 8NT
Charity Number: 1212094



9. Responding to Concerns

- All concerns will be taken seriously.
- The welfare of the child/adult at risk comes first.
- SCTCC officers will not investigate allegations but will refer promptly to the appropriate agency/NGB.
- Records of concerns will be kept securely and shared only with those who need to know.

10. Safe Environment & Activities

SCTCC will:

- Conduct **risk assessments** for facilities, equipment, and activities.
- Provide **first aid** cover at all sessions/events.
- Manage photography and social media use responsibly.
- Supervise trips, transport, and overnight stays with safeguarding in mind.

11. Training & Awareness

- All coaches, volunteers, and officials working with children or adults at risk must complete safeguarding training appropriate to their role.
- Welfare Officers must attend specialist safeguarding courses (e.g., ECB Safe Hands, LTA Time to Listen).

12. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Trustees/Committee and updated in line with changes in legislation, guidance, or NGB requirements.

Approved by the SCTCC Trustees

Date of Approval: 31st March 2026

Review Date: Annually or as required