

# Speldhurst Cricket Club

## Safeguarding Policy Statement

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**Speldhurst** Cricket Club (the Club) is committed to ensuring everyone participating in cricket does so in a safe, friendly, secure, and enjoyable environment. Everyone at the Club, whether as a player, coach, official, administrator, volunteer, spectator, parent, or carer has a role to play. Individually and collectively, it is our actions, both on and off the field which can help create a positive and inclusive culture.

### We will do this by:

- Having the right people in place
- Creating the right culture and environment
- Ensuring clear processes are in place for reporting and responding to safeguarding concerns
- Adopting the ECB's Safe Hands Policy and Guidance

### Having the Right People in Place

Whilst everyone at the Club has a responsibility for Safeguarding, we also have a designated Club Safeguarding Officer and Deputy Safeguarding Officer who have completed specialist Safe Hands training provided by the ECB.

The Club Safeguarding Officers are:

- The first point of contact for all children, parents/carers volunteers, and members at the Club
- Responsible for ensuring that everyone who is working with children at the Club is subject to appropriate safer recruitment processes
- A member of our committee
- A source of safeguarding advice for the Club, its committee, and members
- The Club's main point of contact for the County Safeguarding Officer, the Cricket Regulator Safeguarding Team and other external safeguarding agencies
- The person responsible for ensuring correct and comprehensive reporting procedures exist for raising and managing safeguarding concerns.

### Creating the Right Culture and Environment

All participants in cricket, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability, or disability, have the right to enjoy the game in an environment that is safe from abuse of any kind. The Club recognises that safeguarding starts with setting high standards and promoting a positive culture which provides the best environment for participants to enjoy themselves and the game of cricket.

Anyone in a specialist role within the Club is also required to complete the Safeguarding for Specialist Roles training with the relevant additional module. This includes Captains and Team Managers, Coaches and Activators, Officials (Umpires and Scorers) and Committee Members.



- We encourage all of our members to complete the ECB online Safeguarding Induction
- We ensure that all individuals working at or for the Club are provided with the necessary support through education, training and continued professional development (CPD)
- We ensure that all individuals working at or for the Club are recruited and appointed in accordance with ECB Safer Recruitment guidance and relevant legislation and are committed to providing a welcoming, safe, and fun experience for children
- We promote a listening culture where the views of children, parents/carers, volunteers and other Club members are proactively sought and acted upon. This helps us to create an environment where people have the opportunity and confidence to raise concerns, including concerns about poor practice, abuse and neglect
- We seek to create a partnership with parents/carers so that they know what to expect from us and what we expect of them
- We ensure that external organisations who are delivering services on behalf of the Club have safeguarding measures in place which meet the requirements of Safe Hands.

### **Reporting and Responding to Safeguarding Concerns**

It is our aim that everyone at the Club should feel confident to raise a concern, no matter how small. We believe that raising and dealing with concerns quickly, when they occur, supports a proactive safeguarding culture at the Club.

All suspicions, concerns and allegations will be taken seriously. We will follow the 3R's with every concern: **Responding** appropriately, **Recording** confidentiality and **Reporting** where necessary, ensuring that concerns are dealt with in a fair and prompt manner.

The Club recognises that it is not the responsibility of club members to determine or investigate if abuse has taken place, but to act upon and report any concerns promptly.

We ensure that confidential information relating to safeguarding matters is shared appropriately and only with those who need to know. Information may need to be shared with the County Safeguarding Officer, Cricket Regulator Safeguarding Team, or local agencies with statutory responsibility for safeguarding. If we are unsure, we will seek advice from our County Safeguarding Officer.

### **Adopting the ECB's Safe Hands Policy and Guidance**

- The Club has formally adopted the ECB's Safe Hands Policy and guidance as part of our constitution
- The Club works within the ECB Safeguarding Procedure for the management of safeguarding investigations
- We ensure that all individuals who work and volunteer at or for our Club understand how Safe Hands applies to them.



## Safeguarding Steering Group

We have recently set up a Safeguarding Steering Group of the following members:

- Chair - Interim CSO. The new CSO will take on the role once trained via a Safe Hands course in early 2026. The new CSO is female and a parent with a range of people and business skills to bring to the role
- Female parent. Deputy Head of The Mead school
- Male All Age Cricket player. House Master at Ardingly College
- Female parent and coach. Head of Talent Management and Development at the CBI.
- Male Head of Coaching and All Age Cricket player with his son. Extensive Safeguarding experience through work
- Male parent and coach and All Age Cricket player with his son.

The Club Chairman and Head of Junior Cricket will be invited to attend meetings as observers

The Steering Group will act in an executive capacity on all Safeguarding matters on the basis of delegated authority from the Club Committee. The CSO will bring important issues to the attention of the Club Chairman promptly

The Group will report quarterly in writing to the Club Committee and more frequently if required.

### ***Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).***

Our club is committed to following the statutory guidance set out in *KCSIE*.

Each year, the members of our Safeguarding Steering Group read Part 1 of *KCSIE* to ensure they remain up to date with current safeguarding expectations and responsibilities. The Group is responsible for disseminating key updates and relevant information to all coaches and volunteers, ensuring that safeguarding practice is embedded across the club.

The Safeguarding Steering Group also reviews and amends this policy annually, or sooner if required, to reflect changes in *KCSIE* and best practice.

### **Club Commitment**

Speldhurst CC are committed to this Safeguarding Policy Statement and will review it on an annual basis.

**Date Completed** –5 September 2025

**Approved by** – Mark Flemington (Chair) and Francis Booth (Interim Club Safeguarding Officer)

**Date of renewal** – September 2026

