

## A7 SAFEGUARDING OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

This section is also separately identified as the YDCA Safeguarding Policy

7.1 The YDCA is committed in partnership with parents and guardians to Junior players (being under the age of 18) having a positive and enjoyable experience of chess in a safe environment protected from harm and abuse. Child protection is an integral part of this and forms part of our Safeguarding policy.

7.2 The YDCA seeks to abide by the principles of the Safeguarding Policy of the English Chess Federation (ECF) which can be found at [Safeguarding Children Policy – English Chess Federation.](#)

7.3 All officers or volunteers that are involved in the administration or delivery of chess coaching for under 18's, the running of Junior teams in YDCA competitions, or any other specific activity targeted for, or including, children, are required to have an up-to-date Disclosure Barring Services (DBS) application completed.

7.4 All DBS certificates should be checked by the Safeguarding Officer who should retain a note of the DBS identification number, the date on which the check was undertaken, and verify the certificate to separate photographic identification documents of the officer or volunteer, such as a passport or driving licence.

7.5 All officers and volunteers engaged in activities for children shall be requested to register with the DBS update service, such that any updates to their status can be viewed online. The Safeguarding Officer will review this periodically.

7.6 Any parents or guardians remaining on-site during the running of children's chess activities may not be involved in chess coaching or interacting with children other than their own, without firstly following the above procedures registering as a volunteer and obtaining appropriate DBS certification.

7.7 Any contact with children online through email, social media or other, should only be undertaken with copy to the parent or guardian of each child, applicable to all under 18s.

7.8 Specific requirements for the playing of League or Cup matches in which Juniors are participating:

7.8.1 Captains of each team shall inform the Fixtures Secretary, Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Safeguarding Officer of the requirements of their Home venue for Junior (under-18) players, prior to the start of the season, with prompt update in the event of any change in requirements or premises during the season. Notifications and updates shall be given either by letter or by e mail. A summary shall be provided to all Captains at the start of the season by the Safeguarding Officer, with prompt update in the event of any changes in requirements or premises. It is the responsibility of away team Captains to ensure that they adhere to the requirements of the Home venue. In the event that a team has a Home venue that can no longer accommodate a Junior player then a Committee meeting shall be called to determine an approach.

7.8.2 On the evening of League or Cup matches, Captains of any team that includes a Junior player should ensure that the parent or guardian for the Junior player understands that they remain responsible for ensuring the safeguarding of the Junior player throughout the match.

7.9 The Safeguarding Officer shall ensure that all team captains are aware of the YDCA Safeguarding Policy and the ECF Safeguarding Policy in its current form and as amended from time to time.

7.10 All Officers, team Captains and Volunteers are required to confirm at least annually that they have read and understood the Safeguarding Policy. Signed confirmation should be retained by the Safeguarding Officer. Any Officer, team Captain or Volunteer that does not promptly provide such confirmation shall be required not to undertake their role.

7.11 It is expected that all Officers and volunteers engaged in activities for Juniors should take precautions to avoid risk of perception of harm, for example through remaining in public spaces with Juniors at all times, planning such that Officers or volunteers do not remain one-to-one with Juniors, and avoiding any physical contact.

7.12 This Safeguarding Policy should be added to any YDCA or member club websites.