**Highgate Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club**

**Safeguarding and Protecting Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy Statement**

• Highgate Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club (The Club) is committed to ensuring all children and vulnerable adults who take part in sport, have a safe positive and fun experience, whatever their level of involvement

• The welfare of all children and vulnerable adults is paramount

• All children and vulnerable adults participating in cricket, tennis or any other sport, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability, have the right to enjoy their games in an environment safe from abuse of any kind

• The Club recognises the importance of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and is committed to developing, and implementing, policies and procedures which ensure that everyone knows, and accepts, their responsibility in relation to a duty of care for children and vulnerable adults.

• The Club is committed to ensuring there are correct and comprehensive procedures for responding to, recording and reporting safeguarding concerns

• The Club will endeavour to ensure all suspicions and allegations will be taken seriously, managed and dealt with swiftly and appropriately in line with their National Governing Bodies policy and procedures

• The Club recognises that appropriate safeguarding is not just about preventing abuse but providing the best environment for children and vulnerable adults to enjoy themselves and the games they play.

• The Club is committed to ensuring that safeguarding and protecting is central to its activities and development of the club and as such requires all members, whether paid staff, volunteers, club representatives, coaches, players or spectators to have embraced and promoted this Safeguarding Policy

• The General Committee and its Sub Cricket and Tennis Committees have fully adopted this Safeguarding Policy and is putting in place continually updated policies, procedures and training to implement the standards laid out by our respective National Governing Bodies of Sport and to meet national legislation requirements.

• As stated in our Club Constitution we have a Club Welfare Officer who has an overarching Safeguarding responsibility to the committee. In addition, there are other sport specific Club Welfare Officers to ensure that appropriate procedures are followed as per the sport specific guidelines.

• The Club recognises the responsibility of the statutory agencies and is committed to working with Local Safeguarding Children Boards and Local Authority Designated Officers and complying with their procedures and the statutory guidance “Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015”

• The Club is committed to promoting sound recruitment procedures and good practice for all individuals working within our sports whether in a paid or voluntary capacity

• The Club will ensure that individuals will receive support through education and training, to be aware of, and understand, best practice and how to manage any safeguarding issues which may come to light

• The Club recognises that it is not the responsibility of those individuals working in cricket or tennis to determine if abuse has taken place, but it is their responsibility to act upon and report any concerns