PHOENIX TABLE TENNIS CLUB

**CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

The aim of the policy is to promote good practice by ensuring all members:

* **Are fully aware of their responsibilities with regard to child protection**
* **Safeguard and promote the interests and well being of children with whom they are working**
* **Respond appropriately to concerns**
* **Take all reasonable and practical steps to protect children from harm, discrimination or degrading treatment**
* **Respect and promote children’s rights, wishes and feelings**
* **Make informed and confident responses to child protection issues**

The Association and Club guidelines will:

* **Offer safeguards to children, coaches, officials and volunteers**
* **Help to maintain high standards of professionalism and practice at all levels of the sport**
* **Provide support, appropriate training (and updating) and adequate supervision of coaches and members to enable them to work together with parents, coaches and other organisations to ensure that the welfare and needs of children remain paramount**

The Association and Club believe and seek to uphold the following principles:

* **The child’s welfare is paramount**
* **All children whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right of protection from abuse**
* **Officials, coaches and volunteers are not trained to decide whether abuse has occurred but are vested with the responsibility for ensuring that they act upon any concerns or allegations in relation to children / young people**
* **That processes for dealing with complaints are fair and open to challenge through an appeals process**

**PROMOTING GOOD PRACTICE**

**All children have a right to have fun and be safe in sport. Adults and children have the right to be treated with dignity and respect. The Association and Club acknowledge that false allegations of abuse do occur but are, however, rare. The Association and Club are committed to safeguarding children, coaches, volunteers, officials and the sport through adherence to these procedures.**