**Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult Policy**

#### Gunnislake Table Tennis Club

##### Introduction

All sporting organisations which make provision for children and young people must ensure that:

• The welfare of the child is paramount;

• All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse;

• All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately;

• All staff (paid /unpaid) working in sport have a responsibility to report concerns to the Child Protection Officer, who will take appropriate action.

##### Policy statement

Gunnislake Table Tennis Club has a duty of care to safeguard all children and vulnerable people from harm. All children have a right to protection, and the needs of disabled children and others who may be particularly vulnerable must be taken into account. Gunnislake Table Tennis Club will ensure the safety and protection of all children involved in the club through adherence to the Child Protection Guidelines of the English Table Tennis Association (ETTA).

##### Definitions

A child is defined as under 18 in The Children Act 2004.

A vulnerable adult is a person aged 18 years or over who may be unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves from harm or from being exploited.

This may include a person who:

• Is elderly and frail;

• Has a mental illness such as dementia;

• Has a physical or sensory disability;

• Has a learning disability;

• Has a severe physical illness;

• Is a substance misuser;

• Is homeless.

##### Policy aims

The aim of the Gunnislake Table Tennis Club’s Child Protection Policy is to promote good practice and to:

• Safeguard and promote the interests and well-being of children, young people and vulnerable adults who come to the Club;

• Take all reasonable and practical steps to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults from harm, discrimination and degrading treatment;

• Respond appropriately to concerns;

• Respect and promote everyone’s rights, wishes and feelings;

• Make informed and confident responses to child protection issues.

##### ETTA Child Protection Policy and Guidelines

The Gunnislake Table Tennis Club will adopt and adhere to the ETTA’s Child Protection Policy and Guidelines to achieve all the above. A copy of the ETTA’s Child Protection Policy and Guidelines is available to view on the Club’s Notice Board, by request to one of the Officers of the Management Committee, and from the ETTA (01424 722525, www.etta.co.uk).

###### Adopted in a Club Committee Meeting on 13th September 2013.

**Signed: Name: Ottilia Pochat Position: Chairman**

**Signed: Name: June Taylor Position: Secretary**