Stoke D'Abernon Cricket Club

Safeguarding Policy Statement 2026

Stoke D'Abernon 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, staff member, 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 our club has a responsibility for Safeguarding, we also have a designated Club Safeguarding Officer who has completed specialist Safe Hands training provided by the ECB.

The Club Safeguarding Officer is:

- 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 ECB 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 of 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.
- We ensure we are working within the guidelines of the anti-discriminatory policy that has come into effect from January 2025 as set out by the ECB.
- We ensure that SDCC are adhering to the live streaming guidelines which have come into effect from January 2025 as set out by the ECB.

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.

Club Commitment

Stoke D'Abernon CC are committed to this Safeguarding Policy Statement and will review it on an annual basis.

Date Completed – *20 April 2026*
Signed by – *James Trower (Chair) and Lindre Macpherson-Scott (Club Safeguarding Officer) on behalf of Stoke D'Abernon Cricket Club*
Date of renewal – ***20 April 2027***

Our Club Safeguarding Officer's details are:

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