PTBC CHILD PROTECTION AND VULNERABLE ADULT POLICY

Core Purpose
The policy sets out the club's legal and moral duty to safeguard children and vulnerable adults involved in club activities. It emphasises that welfare is paramount and that the club must provide a safe, respectful, and caring environment.

Key Commitments
- Respect & recognition for all junior members and celebration of their achievements.
- Careful recruitment of adults working with juniors.
- Proper handling of concerns and allegations.
- Adoption of Sussex Child Protection & Safeguarding Procedures.

Reporting Concerns
- Any adult member must report concerns about a child or young person to the Child Protection/Equity Officer or their deputies.
- The designated officer is responsible for:
- Monitoring and recording concerns
- Making referrals to authorities without delay
- Liaising with external agencies
- Arranging safeguarding training for members

Confidentiality & Disclosure
- If abuse is disclosed by a parent or junior member, the club must share this with the Child Protection Officer, who may need to refer it to the appropriate authority.
- Concerns about adult behaviour within the club must also be referred immediately.

Policy Review
- All club policies, including this one, are reviewed annually at the first Committee Meeting after the AGM.

Safeguarding Contacts
- Club Child Protection & Equality Officer – details on the clubhouse notice board.
- County Safeguarding Officer – link provided in the document.
- Bowls England National Safeguarding Officer – available via Bowls England website.
- External organisations listed for support and guidance:
- Active Partnership
- Ann Craft Trust
- Childline
- Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU)