



## **The “Safe Hands” Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy Statement**

The ECB is committed to ensuring all children who take part in cricket, have a safe positive and fun experience, whatever their level of involvement

The welfare of all children is paramount

All children within cricket, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability, have the right to enjoy the game in an environment safe from abuse of any kind

The ECB recognises the importance of safeguarding children within the game 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

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

The ECB will endeavour to ensure all suspicions and allegations will be taken seriously, managed and dealt with swiftly and appropriately in line with ECB policy and procedures

The ECB recognises that appropriate safeguarding is not just about preventing abuse but providing the best environment for children to enjoy themselves and the game of cricket

The ECB is committed to ensuring that safeguarding and protecting children is central to its development of the game and as such requires all clubs and other bodies who wish to seek ECB support, whether financial or otherwise, for developing facilities and/or opportunities to play the game of cricket, to have adopted and implemented this “Safe Hands” Safeguarding Policy

It is a mandatory requirement that all County Boards, affiliated leagues and clubs must adopt and implement the ECB “Safe Hands” Policy and they will be supported to do so through education and training

All affiliated clubs must appoint a Club Welfare Officer to ensure that appropriate procedures are followed

The ECB 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 2018”

The ECB is committed to promoting sound recruitment procedures and good practice for all individuals working within cricket whether in a paid or voluntary capacity

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