

# Irish Table Tennis Association Ltd

## ULSTER BRANCH



### Adult Safeguarding Policy

Table Tennis Ulster (TTU) believe everyone has the right to live free from abuse or neglect, regardless of age, ability, disability, sex, race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital or gender status.

We are committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment and an open, listening culture where people feel able to share concerns without fear of retribution.

We collectively acknowledge that safeguarding is everybody's responsibility, and we are committed to the prevention of abuse and neglect through safeguarding the welfare of all adults involved in our sport.

TTU recognise that health, wellbeing, ability, disability and need for care and support can affect a person's resilience. We recognise that some people experience barriers, for example, to communication in raising concerns or seeking help. We recognise that these factors can vary at different points in people's lives.

We recognise that there is a legal framework within which sports need to work to safeguard adults who have needs for care and support, and for protecting those who are unable to take action to protect themselves. We will act in accordance with the relevant safeguarding adult legislation and with local statutory safeguarding procedures.

Actions taken by TTU will be consistent with the principles of adult safeguarding, ensuring that any action taken is prompt, proportionate and that it includes and respects the voice of the adult concerned.

### DEFINITION OF ADULTS AT RISK

#### **N.I. (Adult Safeguarding Prevention and Protection in Partnership 2015)**

An adult at risk of harm is a person aged 18 or over, whose exposure to harm through abuse, exploitation or neglect may be increased by their **a)** personal characteristics and/or **b)** life circumstances.

**a)** Personal characteristics may include, but are not limited to: age, disability, special educational needs, illness, mental or physical frailty or impairment of, or disturbance in, the functioning of the mind or brain.

**b)** Life circumstances may include, but are not limited to: isolation, socio-economic factors and environmental living conditions.

An adult in need of protection is a person aged 18 or over, whose exposure to harm through abuse, exploitation or neglect may be increased by their **a)** personal characteristics and/or **b)** life circumstances and

- c) who is unable to protect their own wellbeing, property, assets, rights or other interests and
- d) where the action or inaction of another person or persons is causing, or is likely to cause, him/her to be harmed.

In order to meet the definition of an 'adult in need of protection' either (a) or (b) must be present, in addition to both elements (c) and (d).

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

TTU will implement this policy and keep adults at risk safe by:

- Appointing a Lead Safeguarding Officer.
- Providing access to relevant legal and professional advice
- Providing regular updates to the executive committee on how risks to adult safeguarding are being addressed and how any reports have been addressed
- Aligning adult safeguarding procedures that deal effectively with any concerns of abuse or neglect, including those caused through poor practice
- Working with other relevant organisations to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults, including arrangements for sharing information
- Risk assessments that specifically include safeguarding of adults
- Policies and procedures that address the following areas and which are consistent with this Adult Safeguarding Policy:
  - ✓ Bullying
  - ✓ Social media
  - ✓ Equality, diversity and inclusion
  - ✓ Codes of conduct
  - ✓ Discipline and grievance
  - ✓ Concerns and complaints
  - ✓ Whistleblowing
  - ✓ Safe recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers
  - ✓ Information policy, data protection and information sharing
  - ✓ Adult Safeguarding Procedures (Responding to and managing a concern about an adult).