

Kinsale Chess Mates

Child Safeguarding Statement

1. **Name of service being provided:** _____Kinsale Chess Mates Chess Club_____

2. **Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm** (*brief outline of what our service is, what we do and our commitment to safeguard children*):

The Club will be engaging in the direct coaching & supervision of children and adults with a view to developing their chess skills. The primary goal is for children to play chess in a safe and fun environment. The Club is committed to safeguarding children and has developed a comprehensive policy to ensure children are protected from harm.

3. Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services including the area of online safety when accessing the internet. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

| | Risk identified | Procedure in place to manage identified risk |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Unvetted supervisors | Identify the unvetted adult, obtain contact details, immediately engage the vetting process. |
| 2 | Inadequate number of supervisors | The session will not be started until at least two established supervisors are already present. Parents bringing children will be required to remain at the venue until the session has started. There will be a rota of supervisors with contact details for backup supervisors in the event additional supervisors are required. Parents of smaller children (e.g. U10) will be asked to remain at the venue for the duration of the session. |
| 3 | Photography / Social Media | Follow ICU policy; ensure all members (including supervisors) are aware of photography & social media policies. |
| 4 | Competition Transport | Discourage club supervisors and coaches from travelling as sole adult with children of another family. Refer to ICU guidelines. |

4. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children* (2017), and Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service;
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children;
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla;
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons;
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on September 2025, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Chairperson: Fergal Dalton, Belgooly, Co. Cork.

For queries, please contact joanallenkinsale@gmail.com, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.