

Leeds Bridge Club Trust

Safeguarding Policy

1. AIM

Leeds Bridge Club Trust (LBCT) believes that the welfare of all its members, students and visitors is important. All members, students and visitors whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity should be able to play bridge in a safe environment. All members, students and visitors should be protected from inappropriate behaviour as well as from abuse or financial harm. LBCT expects that everyone involved in our club accepts their responsibilities to safeguard members, students and visitors and to report any concerns about their welfare to the appropriate authorities.

2. CONTEXT & TERMINOLOGY

For the purpose of this safeguarding policy:

- Children are children and young people under 18 years of age; and
- Vulnerable adults are aged 18 and over who are in receipt of a regulated activity, i.e. the provision of healthcare, personal care and/ or social work; assistance with general household matters and/or the conduct of the adult's own affairs; and/or an adult who is conveyed to, from, or between places, where they receive healthcare, relevant personal care or social work because of their age, illness or disability.
- Club means the bridge operations of LBCT or the premises where it undertakes such operations.

At present LBCT does not run any events for children, but children might sometimes play in our sessions. If LBCT does begin children's classes or play then this policy will be revised to cover this.

Some vulnerable adults might sometimes play at the club.

LBCT believes all should feel safe in the club and be covered by this policy.

3. POLICY

Leeds Bridge Club Trust will:

1. Adopt the principles of the English Bridge Union's Best Behaviour at Bridge (attached)
2. Seek to ensure bridge is enjoyable by treating all people equally, with respect and dignity; by confronting and dealing with bullying; and by promoting fair play.
3. Seek to promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of members, students and visitors by ensuring that applicable safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

4. Take all reasonable steps to ensure that members understand their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and best behaviour at bridge.
5. Ensure players maintain a safe and appropriate distance from children and young people when at our club. It is inappropriate for players to have an intimate relationship with a young person. It is considered bad practice to approach a young person directly to offer support, or to offer to partner them in a game of bridge. All approaches, including requests for personal details, must be made through the Safeguarding Officer, or nominated representative (which can be a bridge playing parent/carer).
6. Ensure a procedure for the reporting of incidents/concerns of abuse or bullying.
7. Ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and stored securely.
8. Seek to provide a safe environment for people to enjoy the game of bridge.

4. PROCEDURES

1. The Safeguarding Officer (SGO) is appointed by the LBCT trustees and is not a trustee (as could be involved in matters referred to the disciplinary committee comprising such trustees). The identity of the SGO is included in the list of trustees and officers and is published on the notice board and the LBCT web site. The trustees, in collaboration with the SGO, are responsible for safeguarding policy and procedures.
2. The SGO, in collaboration with the committee secretary, is responsible for ensuring appropriate recording of incidents, concerns (investigation and taking action covered in para 6 below) and for storing these securely in compliance with relevant legislation and in accordance with LBCT's document and storage policy.
3. Any LBCT member who has concerns about potential risks to a person should report their concerns immediately to the Tournament Director of the bridge session, the SGO or the committee secretary who will record relevant details as factually as possible.
4. If an individual is not sure whether an action constitutes bullying, poor practice or abuse, the individual should discuss the situation in confidence with the SGO or the committee secretary.
5. The SGO will be informed of concerns as soon as possible and will communicate these to the committee secretary.
6. The committee secretary and SGO will investigate incidents and concerns and take appropriate action including reporting their conclusions to the trustees and / or to the conduct committee and, where external reporting required, to the company secretary, who will obtain formal advice from our own legal advisors and be responsible for reporting to any appropriate external body.

7. Every effort will be made to ensure that confidentiality is maintained. Information will be handled and disseminated on a need to know basis only.

If there are matters that cannot be referred currently to the conduct committee and should be, we will review how the LBCT Rules can be changed to include such matters.

As advised by the SGO the Trustees of LBCT undertake to review the safeguarding policy and procedures annually or where there are changes in legislation and/or accepted practice.

18 February 2019

Leeds Bridge Club Trust
Registered Office: Moor Allerton Sports & Social Centre, Stonegate Road, Leeds LS17 6EL
Registered in England and Wales no : [9490140](#). Registered charity no : [1161317](#)

Appendix



BEST BEHAVIOUR AT BRIDGE

Bridge is an extremely enjoyable game. Courteous behaviour is an exceptionally important part of that enjoyment. The EBU is committed to the principle of equality of opportunity. It considers it a fundamental principle that anyone wishing to participate in duplicate bridge, whether as player, official or in any other capacity, should be able to do so in a safe and welcoming environment, and not be subject to less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, age, race, disability, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, religious or political belief or social class than any other person.

This guide serves as a brief reminder of how to behave at the bridge table. We are sure that all players naturally follow this code of conduct but there are times when concentration and pressure can take their toll and it is for these situations that we issue this as a reminder.

- Greet others in a friendly manner prior to start of play on each round.
- Be a good “host” or “guest” at the table.
- Make your convention card readily available to your opponents and fill it out completely.
- Make bridge enjoyable for yourself, partner and opponents.
- Give credit when opponents make a good bid or play.

- Take care of your personal grooming.
- Ensure that your mobile phone is turned off.
- Enjoy the company as well as the game.

Remember that it is rude to criticise your partner or opponents in public, to be less than polite at the table, to gloat over good results or object to a call for the tournament director or to dispute or argue about a director's ruling, or generally to make any personal and disparaging remark.

Please call the Director if you think you may have been affected by bad behaviour. You will be helping others as well as yourselves.

As in all games that are governed by rules and regulations, bad behaviour will be penalized

If a player at the table behaves in an unacceptable manner, the director should be called immediately. Annoying behaviour, embarrassing remarks, or any other conduct which might interfere with the enjoyment of the game is specifically prohibited by Law 74A. Law 91A gives the director the authority to assess disciplinary penalties. This can include immediate disciplinary board penalties and may lead to disqualification from the current event. In addition any violation may result in a disciplinary hearing where player(s) future participation in tournaments will be considered.

English Bridge Union
November 2017