

PVG (Child Protection) Report to Chess Scotland Annual General Meeting (AGM) - 19 August 2012

Background

The Lead Signatory for Chess Scotland (CS), Steve Mannion Snr (SM), and the Additional Signatory, Dick Heathwood (DH), have used the CS website and correspondence with various CS volunteers to ensure that everyone is aware of developments in the area of PVG (Child Protection). In view of the importance of this topic and its associated legal obligations, both SM and DH felt that a formal report should be submitted to the AGM. It is recommended that this Report should be attached as an Appendix to the AGM's Minutes.

Registered Volunteers

The current position in terms of volunteers who have been processed through the previous Child Protection disclosures and the current PVG scheme are as follows:-

Registered Volunteer Category	Number Registered	Of Whom PVG Members
Coaches	56	14
Arbiters	21	2
Chaperons (incl unpublished)	10	4
Club Coaches	3	3
TOTALS	90	23

All of the above have signed a Job Description and Undertaking, these documents are retained by SM. In early 2011 a number of volunteers who had not submitted applications for disclosure or applied to join the PVG Scheme were removed from the above lists.

The various categories of volunteers are well enough known to dispense with any need for repeating their individual descriptions; however, brief mention should be made to the category Chess Club Coaches. Where a chess club is a CS member, a facility is offered through CS for club members who are directly involved in coaching juniors on a volunteer basis to apply through CS for PVG scheme membership. This service is available even to club members who are not themselves individual members of CS. A number of applications are in the process at the moment and it is expected that further applications will be received from other clubs. This club coach facility is documented on the CS website. Obviously, there is no question of extending this service to clubs which are not CS members.

Map of Scottish Chess Clubs

The map of chess clubs uses different coloured pins to identify the different categories of clubs:

- CS member clubs which cater for children and have one or more Chess (Club) Coaches who are members of the PVG (Child Protection) scheme
- clubs which are CS members
- other clubs

Whilst there are only three clubs currently in the first category, the number will grow as existing and potential new applications are processed.

Retrospective Checking

Those volunteers who were registered under the previous Child Protection disclosure process will now be required to migrate across to the current PVG scheme. The commencement of retrospective checking has been delayed by the authorities for many months but has now been announced for October 2012. In order to manage the workload involved a cap has been placed on organisations such as CS in terms of the number of PVG applications which can be submitted each month.

A phased migration is therefore called for. After consulting the authorities the sequence will be as follows:-

1. Chaperons
2. Arbiters and Coaches who are active and occasionally work outside of Scotland.
3. All Coaches who have Disclosures Certificates more than 3 years old.
4. Thereafter, Coaches will take priority over Arbiters with the oldest dated Disclosure Certificates processed first.

Each volunteer will be contacted direct by SM and/or DH, no action is required meantime from any existing CS registered volunteers.

Steven Mannion Snr & Dick Heathwood