AIMS OF LEEDS JUNIOR CHESS CLUB, CODE OF CONDUCT and TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

* Promote chess in the most positive way possible to junior players.
* Provide access to junior players to competition, high quality coaching and national competition
* Promote competition in good quality environments with a high standard of manners, sportsmanship and respect for others.
* Provide equal opportunities for all juniors to play chess regardless of gender, culture, race or background.
* To become an outstanding club promoting excellence.

Coaching

The club will only employ coaches who meet the following criteria:

* *A recent (last 12 months) CRB (DRB) enhanced check*
* *A teaching qualification*
* *A proven track record of coaching juniors*
* *Evidence of success in coaching*

Coaching will be tailored to the needs, ability levels and ages of the junior members.

Coaching will be given on a regular basis with the majority of club meetings providing an element of coaching.

Coaches will treat juniors and their parents with respect and endeavour to carry out the aims of the club.

Coaches will encourage children to improve and never be over critical of their play. They should offer appropriate advice (taking into account age and personality).

Coaches will operate within safeguarding procedures relevant to junior clubs. At least one coach will be trained in such procedures.

Coaches will not leave members unsupervised at any time.

Coaches will set a high standard of behaviour and act as role models.

Code of conduct for members

Junior members will attend regularly (as a minimum 60% of sessions in a term).

Junior members will observe a high standard of behaviour and manners towards their coaches, each other and other adults in the building.

Junior members will help to set up and tidy up at the end, and will not leave a session until such duties are carried out.

Junior members will stay in the coaching room at all times except when they need to visit the toilets. On doing so they will return directly to the coaching room and not attempt to access any other area of the building.

Junior members will stay inside the building and inform the coaches in charge when leaving.

Junior members will not bring mobile phones to the sessions unless absolutely necessary. If they are brought they remain switched off at all times until they leave.

Junior members may bring drinks or small snacks, but they must not chew gum of any sort.

Junior members will not use electronic devices during club sessions and should not bring them.

Junior members will pay attention to their coaches and not interrupt during talks. Questions and observations will be welcome, but in a polite way eg putting up your hand.

A high standard of respect for each other will be expected and all normal rules of chess apply at all times unless permission to deviate is given. This means a high standard of sportsmanship also.

Junior members must respect the club equipment, taking care to put it away properly and treat it properly. Equipment broken through carelessness may be charged for.

Junior members may be asked to represent the club in team competitions. They should be available for this if asked, informing coaches in good time if they are not.

Junior members of this high performing club are expected to progress, and that means taking part in competitions. They will be expected to take part in the UK Chess Challenge and Yorkshire Junior Grand Prix events and represent the county if selected. They will also be asked to take part in Saturday league chess in conjunction with Alwoodley Chess Club and should be available for this within reason.

Junior members will not make any comments about coaches, other members or parents on social media or by text or e-mail.

Junior members who do not abide by the code of conduct will be asked to leave the club. Refunds will not be given.

Code of Conduct for online chess

We have a separate protocol for online chess which all children and parents should read before playing online.

Children who break the protocols will be spoken to with their parents and asked to change their behaviour and may be asked to go on Zoom when playing online.

Code of conduct for parents

Parents are expected to support their child’s progress in chess bringing them to the club regularly (see above regarding attendance) and on time.

Children should be picked up on time. Parents who are late picking up their children may be asked to leave the club if it happens more than once.

Parents should endeavour to let coaches know if their child is missing any sessions for any reason, in good time before the session.

Parents should read club updates carefully which will be e-mailed approximately weekly and make sure their children are aware of meetings and competitions and other club news.

Parents should be in the club WhatsApp group. It is accepted some parents may not want to use WhatsApp but this can’t be used as an excuse for not knowing what is happening in the club as updates will be on the website.

Parents should be courteous to the coaches, other parents and all children at all times. Any form of abusive, aggressive or angry behaviour will not be tolerated.

Parents should support their children by encouraging them, but never by over criticising their performance.

Parents should endeavour to support the efforts of the club to improve their child’s play by entering them for suggested tournaments and coaching events.

Parents should ensure all fees due to the club are paid on time.

Parents should be available on the emergency contact numbers they have supplied during club meetings and be able to collect a child who is unwell or injured.

While the club will recommend events for children to participate in, we would expect parents to be proactive in seeking out opportunities for their children to compete.

Selection Policy

Leeds Junior Chess Club aims to become a high performing club. There will no longer be automatic renewal of membership. All current members will be invited to renew at the end of the year (31st August) but they will then enter a selection process with prospective new members.

They will be informed before the first meeting whether membership has been renewed. The decision will be made by the club organiser and Head Coach, based on ability, enthusiasm, behaviour, attendance and willingness to progress. Feedback will not be given on decisions (although all requests for feedback will be considered and given if appropriate).

Terms and Conditions of Membership

The fee for the 2021-22 season will be £70.

The fee includes:

The costs of club coaching.

£15 fee for junior membership of Alwoodley Community Association (if already a member of another section the £15 fee can be deducted).

Entry into the club stage of the UK Chess Challenge (but not subsequent stages), should this take place physically this year.

Club insurance.

All prizes and competition entry fees at the club.

Any training materials produced for learning purposes.

Entry into team competitions where juniors are representing Leeds Junior Chess Club or Alwoodley Chess Club.

Membership of Alwoodley Chess Club if desired.

Terms and conditions:

The fee is not refundable under any circumstances once membership is accepted.

All members and their parents must abide by the code of conduct. If membership is revoked in accordance with the code of conduct the fee is not refundable.

If entry to the club is refused then the fee will be refunded.

Juniors must be over 7 years old and under 18 years old on the 1st September of the year they join.

Juniors will be accepted as members in accordance with our selection policy.

We will not provide feedback if membership is refused and reserve the right to refuse membership without explanation.

If membership is revoked then clear reasons will be given with reference to our code of conduct.

Membership fees must be paid before the first club meeting of the year, otherwise your place will be offered to someone else.