



# Blairgowrie Tennis Club

## Safeguarding Whistle Blowing Policy

### Introduction

Blairgowrie Tennis Club (referred to in this document as ‘BTC’, ‘the Club’, we, our, or us) prioritises the well-being of all children and vulnerable adults. The Club promotes safeguarding at all times, including all coaching programmes and events and we strive to provide a positive tennis experience for all participants.

Safeguarding children and adults at risk requires everyone to be committed to the highest possible standards of openness, integrity and accountability. As a club, we are committed to encouraging and maintaining a culture where people feel able to raise a genuine safeguarding concern and are confident that it will be taken seriously.

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## What is Whistle Blowing?

In the context of safeguarding, “whistle blowing” is when someone raises a concern about the well-being of a child or an adult at risk.

A whistle blower may be:

- a player;
- a volunteer;
- a coach;
- other member of staff;
- an official;
- a parent;
- a member of the public.

## How to Raise a Concern about a Child or Vulnerable Adult at the Club

If a child or an adult at risk is in immediate danger or risk of harm, the police should be contacted by calling 999.

Where a child or an adult at risk is not in immediate danger, any concerns about their well-being should be made without delay to the Club Welfare Officer. The Club Welfare Officer will pass the details of the concern on to the LTA Safeguarding Team at the earliest opportunity and the relevant local authority and the police will be contacted, where appropriate.

If, however, the whistle blower does not feel comfortable raising a concern with the Club Welfare Officer, the whistle blower should contact the LTA Safeguarding Team directly on 020 8487 7000, the Local Authority (Child Protection and Duty Team: 01738 476768 or Adult Support and Protection Services: 0345 301 11 20) or the NSPCC on 0800 800 5000.

## Information to Include when Raising a Concern

The whistle blower should provide as much information as possible regarding the incident or circumstance which has given rise to the concern, including:

- a name and contact details (unless they wish to remain anonymous),
- names of individuals involved,
- date, time and location of incident/circumstance, and
- whether any witnesses were present.

## What Happens Next?

All concerns raised by a whistle blower about the well-being of a child or an adult at risk will be taken seriously and every effort will be made to deal with each concern fairly, quickly and proportionately.

If the whistle blower does not believe that the concern has been dealt with appropriately and wishes to speak to someone outside the club or the LTA Safeguarding Team, the NSPCC Whistleblowing advice line should be contacted on 0800 028 0285 or by emailing [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk).

## Support

The club will not tolerate any harassment, victimisation or unfair treatment of, and will take appropriate action to protect, whistle blowers when they raise a concern in good faith.

## What Happens If This Policy Gets Changed?

The most up-to-date revision of this policy is available on ClubSpark.

## HOW YOU CAN GET IN TOUCH

You can get in touch with one of our team by emailing [BNTCsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:BNTCsecretary@gmail.com). If you have any queries about this policy, in the first instance you can email [GovernanceBTC@gmail.com](mailto:GovernanceBTC@gmail.com).

Approved by	President: Shirley Davidson	Club Welfare Officer: Áine Fitzgerald
Date	1/4/24	1/4/24

Next review date: 3 yearly or as required

## REVISION CONTROL/CHANGE HISTORY

Revision Date	Changes/Reason for change
16.9.18	Original release for GDPR compliance
19.11.20	Minor editorial changes.
0324	Policy review – new CWO contact details.