

James Young Tennis Club Safeguarding Whistleblowing Policy

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.

What is whistleblowing?

In the context of safeguarding, 'whistleblowing' is when someone raises concern about the well-being of a child or an adult at risk.

A whistleblower 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 an adult at risk at the club

If a child or an adult at risk is in immediate danger or risk of harm, the police should be contacted immediately 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 (Ross Blackwell). 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 whistleblower does not feel comfortable raising a concern with the Club Welfare Officer, the whistleblower should contact the LTA Safeguarding Team directly on 020 8487 7000, the Local Authority Designated Officer or the NSPCC on 0800 800 5000.

Information to include when raising a concern

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

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

What happens next?

All concerns raised by a whistleblower 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 whistleblower does not believe the concern has been dealt with appropriately and wishes to speak to someone outside the club, they can also contact the LTA Safeguarding team or the NSPCC whistleblowing advice line (on 0800 028 0285 or help@nspcc.org.uk).

Support

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

Club Welfare Officer: Ross Blackwell

Date: 31 October 2022

Club Committee Treasurer: David Nelson

Date: 31 October 2022