



# SOMERSET TENNIS

## Tennis Somerset Whistleblowing Policy

Adopted by Stephen's Tennis Coaching 01 January 2023

### Tennis Somerset Safeguarding Whistleblowing Policy

Safeguarding children and adults at risk requires everyone to be committed to the highest possible standards of openness, integrity and accountability. Tennis Somerset is committed to encouraging and maintaining a culture where people at all levels within the County tennis structure 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, “whistle blowing” is when someone raises a 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.



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## 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 by calling 999.

Where a child or an adult at risk is not in immediate danger, any concerns about their wellbeing should be made without delay to the County Safeguarding Officer who 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 County Safeguarding Officer, the whistle blower should contact the LTA Safeguarding Team directly on 020 8487 7000, the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) or the NSPCC on 0808 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:

- their 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 of the County Structure 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 County, within the tennis structure in Somerset, will not tolerate any harassment, victimisation or unfair treatment of, and will take appropriate action to protect, whistleblowers when they raise a concern in good faith.

This policy is reviewed every two years.



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Approved by Tennis Somerset 26 November 2020  
Adopted by Frome Tennis Club 28 September 2021