



Sutton-upon-Derwent Tennis Club

WhatsApp Guidance for coaches, venues, volunteers and associates.

There has been some concern regarding the use of WhatsApp, especially where under age 18 (Junior) players are involved.

Bearing in mind that WhatsApp is considered unsuitable for anybody under the age of 16, please ensure the following:

- make clear who is responsible for operating each group (designated coach, Committee Member, etc.);
- make clear the purpose of the group and do not overstep that boundary;
- as an operator, have the express permission of all contacts included in the group;
- where U18s are included in the group at least one relevant parent, guardian or carer for each must also be included;
- where the relevant parent, guardian or carer does not wish to be included the U18 must be removed from that group;
- avoid using emojis;
- avoid 'banter';
- avoid emotive comments.

In short, your WhatsApp communication must be simple, concise, and relevant.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact:

Matt Ward, Welfare Officer, MWdigital2020@gmail.com

LTA direct: safeguarding@lta.org.uk

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