

Thirsk Tennis Club Supervision of Children under 18 Policy Version 1.2 -2024

Safeguarding our members is imperative at Thirsk Tennis club, we have therefore Updated our policies and procedures in line with LTA guidance for young people under 18 when attending the club for non-Coach led sessions.

Our rules are as follows:

1. All children/ young people under 18 who wish to attend coaching sessions or Holiday activities must now register as junior members of the club.
2. All Junior member under the age of 13 who wish to play tennis with other young people in a casual session must be supervised by a parent / guardian.
3. Junior members aged 13-17 playing with peers at Thirsk tennis club may be unsupervised PROVIDING the parent/guardian has assessed that this is safe for their child /children.
HOWEVER, to ensure the parent/guardian is consenting to this unsupervised play- the court booking must be made by the parent/ guardian on behalf of the juniors specifying the names of all participants, including any guests playing and including contact details.
4. Junior members over 16
If a parent /guardian is satisfied that their child is responsible enough to have their own Clubspark account to make bookings, the parent/ guardian must e mail the Club on thirsktennismembers@gmail.com to request, giving consent and enclosing the child's e mail Each request will be assessed on merit and is not guaranteed.
Any communication to the child's e mail address should automatically CC in the parent/guardian.
5. Junior members between the age of 13-17 playing tennis with an adult member outside of their immediate family
In this instance court bookings will be made by the junior members parent/guardian specifying the names of all participants – highlighting the parent/guardian is aware of who the child is on court with, for the match and gives their consent.

6. Junior members 13-17 playing in club organised social, competition or league fixtures.

The parent/guardian will download and complete the clubs consent form and e-mail the completed form to the event organiser/Welfare officer- if appropriate/involved.

** If a child/13-17 is occasionally/regularly playing with a group of adults and needs to be included in a WhatsApp group to facilitate communication. The child's parent/guardian must consent to including the child in the group. Both the child and parent/guardians' numbers should be included so that all communication with the child can be monitored by the parent/guardian. WhatsApp group administrators will set up the group so that all communication is to the admin and "public" within the group.

Club Chairman: Guy Baragwanath January 2024

Club Welfare Officer: Kate Waldron January 2024