

# Warwickshire Lawn Tennis Association

## Use of Changing Facilities Policy



**WARWICKSHIRE  
TENNIS**

(Version 2.0 October 2023, approved by WLTA Management Committee on 10 October 2023)

## **SCOPE AND BACKGROUND**

Warwickshire LTA (WLTA) has no facilities of its own and uses venues around the county to deliver coaching, events, and tournaments. This document is intended to allow WLTA venues to meet the needs of its members, considering the facilities that are available to them, the number of people accessing them and the activities they are undertaking.

Whilst changing facilities in venues vary greatly, venues are required to have a policy on the use of changing facilities (unless they have no changing facilities at all). This policy may not be suitable or practical for some venues due to their nature (e.g. public access, multi-sport venues, etc) in which case this policy can be used as a starting point alongside the CPSU changing rooms guidance (<https://thecpsu.org.uk/resource-library/best-practice/safe-use-of-changing-facilities/>) to develop a policy that meets their needs.

WLTA expects all venues used for county cup coaching, events, and tournaments to comply with this policy. For WLTA tournaments, e.g. County Closed, the venue's Use of Changing Facilities Policy should be considered as part of the pre-event safeguarding risk assessment.

Venues who find it difficult to adhere to some of the procedures in this document and CPSU guidance, or do not have changing facilities at all, may consider that it is more practical for players to come to the venue already changed, wearing suitably warm clothing e.g., tracksuits, and go home afterwards to change and shower.

## **POLICY ON THE USE OF CHANGING ROOMS**

WLTA strives to ensure that all children (anyone under 18) are safeguarded from abuse and have an enjoyable tennis experience.

This policy applies to all staff, coaches, volunteers, players, parents/carers, and any other individuals associated with WLTA.

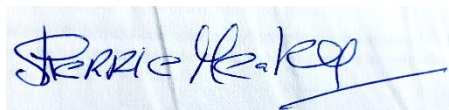
This document sets out the policy venues used by WLTA are expected to have for the acceptable use of our changing rooms.

1. Groups of children will have sole use of changing rooms. This reduces any risks and potential vulnerability associated with mixing adults and children when changing and showering.
2. If adults and children need to share our changing rooms, they will do so at different times.
3. Where it is unavoidable that changing rooms are used by both adults and children at the same time, there will be access to separate changing, showering and toilet areas.
4. Under no circumstances will adult staff, coaches or volunteers change or shower at the same time as children using the changing rooms.
5. Mixed gender groups of children will have access to separate changing rooms or use the same changing room but at different times.
6. If we are made aware that a child or adult self-identifies as a gender that differs from the gender they were assigned at birth, we will work with them and their parents/carers (where it relates to a child) to make reasonable adjustments to changing arrangements to suit their needs (*n.b. for more information on this please go to <https://thecpsu.org.uk/help-advice/topics/lgbt-young-people-and-sport/>*)
7. Mobile phones and other electronic devices must not be used in changing rooms.

8. For younger groups of children, a DBS checked member of staff or volunteer (also DBS checked) will wait outside the changing rooms to allow children to call for assistance if required.
9. Where no changing facilities are available children, parents and travelling teams/players will be made aware prior to the game and advised to make alternative arrangements and to take appropriate additional clothing e.g., tracksuits etc.

This policy is reviewed every three years, next review October 2026 (or earlier if there is a change in national guidance).

Sherrie Meaking



Date: October 2023

Chairman, Warwickshire Lawn Tennis Association

Colin Mercer



Date: October 2023

Safeguarding Officer, Warwickshire Lawn Tennis Association