

Ballyjamesduff Tennis Club – Child Protection Policy

Appendix 1

CLUB CHILDREN'S OFFICERS

Introduction

The club's Children's Officers are responsible for leading the implementation of Child Protection Policies and Procedures. In this task they will have the full support of the Committee of the club.

The club's Children's Officers will play a fundamental role in the creation of a child centered ethos that promotes the positive aspects of tennis.

This will be achieved by communicating to every adult in the club that they have a duty of care to safeguard the welfare of children and young people in order to protect them from inappropriate behaviour and to promote a culture of safety and fun.

In order to do this the club's Children's Officers require certain knowledge and skills - some of which are a pre-requisite for the role and others that will be obtained through training and experience.

Role and Responsibilities

- To establish and promote a child-centered ethos within the club.
- To make themselves known to all members of the club but particularly the junior members.
- To act as an advisory and support resource to those working with children and young people.
- One of the Children's Officers to serve on the Committee of the club and report at each meeting of the committee on matters pertaining to Child Protection within the club.
- To ensure that children, coaches/volunteers and parents/guardians know how to voice concerns within the club or to external agencies.
- To implement, with support from the Committee, the club's Child Protection Policy and Procedures and to ensure that they are communicated to all members and embraced at all levels within the club
- To ensure that the Child Protection Policy and Procedures are ratified by the Committee.

- To ensure the sign-up to the club's Codes of Conduct by all coaches/volunteers, children and parents/guardians.
- To influence policy and practice in regard to Child Protection by serving on the Committee of the club.
- To manage and report concerns and to advise on poor practice issues which might not reach the threshold of intervention by statutory agencies but nonetheless require to be addressed.
- To promote greater consultation with and participation in club activities by junior members. Further, to ensure that there are ways for junior members to express their views and concerns about their activities and experiences within the club.
- To develop and maintain a register of club personnel who are engaging in regulated activity (as defined by government legislation) with children and young people within the club.
- To implement the required training and vetting needs of club personnel engaging in regulated activity with children.
- To commit to attendance at training as required.
- The Children's Officers do not have the responsibility of investigating or validating child protection concerns within the club and therefore have no counselling or therapeutic role. This is the responsibility of statutory organizations.

Minimum Requirements (Children's Officer)

- Have completed the Garda Vetting process.
- Have attended the Safeguarding 1 - Basic Awareness Workshop in Child Welfare & Protection and Safeguarding 2 - Club Children's Officer Workshop.

Desirable qualities and skills.

- A Children's Officer should have good communication and listening skills, be approachable and non-judgmental.
- He/she should have a basic knowledge of child welfare and protection codes and guidelines (which will be acquired through appropriate training).
- The position will require the person to be trustworthy, discreet, impartial and sensitive as they will be required to handle and manage confidential material.
- Possession of basic administrative and organizational skills.



CHILDREN'S OFFICERS

The current Ballyjamesduff Tennis Club Children's Officers are:



Linda Reade
Mobile Number: 087 6503797



Damien Farrelly
Mobile Number: 087 7807550

Ballyjamesduff Tennis Club DLP (Designated Liaison Person) is:

Yvonne Lynch Mobile Number: 0830315204

If you have any concerns, please contact one of the above Children's Officers.
If the concern is about the Children's Officer, please contact the Chairperson of
the club.

The current Chairperson is:
Abby Acheson
Mobile Number: 0876682648