Blossomfield Club Tennis Section Guidelines on

Electronic/Social media communication with all Junior members under the age of 18 years.

In order to safeguard our junior members and to comply with the NSPCC and LTA guidelines, no adult should communicate with any junior member under the age of 18 years on any form of social media, for example by text, WhatsApp or email.

Exceptions to this are covered below.

Blossomfield Club Tennis section asks that all members comply with the following guidelines:

For junior members under the age of 14 years, electronic communication regarding the child should always be through their parent/guardian. Many parents might wish to continue with this policy until the junior member reaches adulthood at 18 years; their wishes should always be respected.

In limited circumstances, it is acceptable for a junior member over the age of 14 years to be included in a small, well managed WhatsApp group with adult members; for example, if they are representing Blossomfield in an adult team match, the WhatsApp group should consist of the relevant team members (and parent/guardian where applicable) only. To enable the child to be included in the group, their parent/guardian must give prior consent and agree to be included in the WhatsApp group themselves, so they are able to monitor any communication that includes their child.

If an adult member needs to communicate with the junior member directly, the same rules apply; the child must be over 14 years old, and their parent/guardian should always give prior consent and always be included in the text/WhatsApp message until they reach 18 years.

If in doubt, please speak with Deb Morton, Welfare Officer, or a member of the tennis committee. If prior consent by a parent/guardian has not been obtained, always communicate with the parent/guardian and not the child until the junior member reaches the age of 18 years.

These measures are in place to safeguard the adult as well as the junior member.