BLOSSOMFIELD CLUB

TENNIS SECTION

WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY

Safeguarding children and adults at risk requires everyone to be committed to the highest possible standards of openness, integrity, and accountability. As a club, we are committed to encouraging and maintaining a culture where people feel able to raise a genuine safeguarding concern and are confident that it will be taken seriously.

What is whistle blowing?

Whistleblowing is when someone reports wrongdoing on the basis that it is in the public interest for the wrongdoing to be brought to light. This can include:

- your or another organisation doesn't have clear safeguarding procedures to follow.
- concerns aren't dealt with properly or may be covered up.
- a concern that was raised hasn't been acted upon
- you are worried that repercussions are likely to arise if you raise a concern.

In the context of safeguarding, 'whistle blowing' is when someone raises a concern about the well-being of a child or an adult at risk.

A whistle blower may be:

- a player;
- a volunteer;
- a coach;
- other member of the club or staff.
- an official;
- a parent;
- a member of the public.

How to raise a concern about a child or an adult at risk at the club

If a child or an adult at risk is in immediate danger or risk of harm, the police should be contacted by calling 999. Whistleblowers should contact the Welfare Officer in the first instance. If the whistleblower does not wish to speak to someone within the venue or the LTA Safeguarding Team, the NSPCC Whistleblowing advice line can be contacted on 0800 028 0285 or by emailing help@nspcc.org.uk.

Where a child or an adult at risk is not in immediate danger, any concerns about their well-being should be made without delay to the Club Welfare Officer, Deb Morton, or Deputy Welfare Officer, Sam Chillcott at: safeguarding_blosstennis@outlook.com. The Club Welfare Officer will pass the details of the concern on to the LTA Safeguarding Team at the earliest opportunity and the relevant local authority, and the police will be contacted, where appropriate.

If, however, the whistle blower does not feel comfortable raising a concern with the Club Welfare Officer, the whistle blower should contact The LTA Safeguarding and Protection Committee for advice and guidance: 02084877179; Email: safeguarding@lta.org.uk, or the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000.

Safecall is an independent, confidential and, if required, anonymous reporting service provided by the LTA if there are serious concerns regarding any of the public interest areas below:

• Criminal offences, including fraud

• Failure to comply with a legal obligation

• Legal miscarriage of justice

• Endangering someone's health and safety

• Damage to the environment

• Covering up wrongdoing in any of the above categories

If a Whistleblower feels that it is not appropriate to contact the LTA Safeguarding Team on the grounds of one of the above areas, they can contact Safecall via telephone on 0800 915 1571. Calls are not recorded. Alternatively, a report can be made online: www.safecall.co.uk/report Information to include when raising a concern.

The whistle blower should provide as much information as possible regarding the incident or circumstance which has given rise to the concern, including:

• their name and contact details unless they wish to remain anonymous.

• names of individuals involved.

• date, time, and location of incident/circumstance; and

• whether any witnesses were present. What happens next?

All concerns raised by a whistleblower about the well-being of a child or an adult at risk will be taken seriously and every effort will be made to deal with each concern fairly, quickly, and proportionately. If the whistle blower does not believe that the concern has been dealt with appropriately and wishes to speak to someone outside the club or the LTA Safeguarding Team, the NSPCC Whistleblowing advice line should be contacted on 0800 028 0285 or by emailing help@nspcc.org.uk.

Support: Blossomfield Club Tennis Section will not tolerate any harassment, victimisation, or unfair treatment of, and will take appropriate action to protect, whistle blowers when they raise a concern in good faith.

Signed	Position	Date
Deborah Morton	Welfare Officer	30/04/2026
Graham Parry	Tennis Section Chair	30/04/2026