



## Child Safeguarding Statement

### **Section 1 - Introduction**

Name: Bushy Park Tennis and Padel Club.

Sport activity: Tennis and Padel

Location: Rathdown Avenue. Terenure. D 6WTX24. Dublin. Ireland

Activities:

Bushy Park Tennis and Padel Club provides tennis and padel activities and opportunities for children and young people, through participation in coaching, tournaments, camps and tennis and padel events base in our club.

Bushy Park Tennis and padel Club is fully committed to safeguarding children and young people. All our volunteers and staff working with children throughout the organisation seek to create a safe environment for children and young people to participate in Tennis and padel .

### **Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm.**

Bushy Park Tennis and Padel Club is committed to safeguarding children and, by working under the guidance of our Safeguarding policies, our staff/volunteers working with our young people throughout the club seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within sport. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

1. Importance of childhood

The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in tennis.

2. Needs of the child

All children's sport experiences should be guided by what is best for children. This means that adults should have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical, and personal needs of young people.

### 3. Integrity in relationships

Adults interacting with children in tennis are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and that the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.

### 4. Fair Play

All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasized, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.

### 5. Quality atmosphere & ethos

Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive, and encouraging atmosphere.

### 6. Competition

Competition is an essential element of tennis and should be encouraged at an age and level appropriate manner. A child-centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place.

### 7. Equality

All children should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social, and ethnic background or political persuasion.

## **Section 3 - Risk Assessment**

Bushy Park Tennis and padel Club's written Risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance, or process documents required to mitigate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the categories below.

Risk Management	Procedure to manage the risk
<b>Coaching session and Practices</b>	
Lack of Coaching qualification	Recruitment policy
Unauthorised photography and Recording	Photography & Use of Images Policy
Conduct and behaviour conflict	Code of Conduct Safe Guarding Training 1 Complaints and Disciplinary Policy
No guidance for traveling	Safe Guarding Training
Lack of adherence with the Safeguarding Policy	Safe guarding Policy and complains and Disciplinary policy
<b>Facilities Use</b>	
Unauthorised access or exit to designated children's play & practice areas and to changing rooms, showers, toilets	Supervision policy Coach education
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas.	Photography policy

Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc	Safeguarding policy
<b>Communications</b>	
Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors.	Child Safeguarding Statement Training Policy
No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Conduct/Behaviour to members of visitors	Child Safeguarding Statement on display in clubhouse and on website Distribution of Code of Conduct/Behaviour
Unauthorised photography & recording of activities	Photography and Use of Images policy
Inappropriate use of social media & communications	Code of Conduct/Behaviour
<b>Reporting Procedures</b>	
Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures	Reporting procedures and Code of Conduct/Behaviour
No Designated Liaison Person (DLP) appointed	Reporting policy and procedures
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported.	Reporting policy and procedures Safeguarding 1 Training
Lack of clarity who a child/young person should to report.	Post in clubhouse and on website the names of the Child Protection Officers, Designated Liaison Person, and any Mandated Persons
<b>Complaints &amp; Discipline</b>	
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	Complaints , disciplinary policy and procedure
Complaints & disciplinary policy & procedure	
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	
<b>General Risk of Harm</b>	
General behavioural issues	Code of Conduct/Behaviour
Harm not being recognised.	Safeguarding policy and Safeguarding Training
Harm caused: child to child, coach to child, volunteer to child, member to child or visitor to child	Safeguarding policy Safeguarding Training
<b>Recruitment</b>	
Recruitment of inappropriate people	Recruitment policy
Lack of clarity on roles.	
Unqualified or untrained people in role.	

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on November 2024

## **Section 4 – Procedures**

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed with the assistance of Sport Ireland in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice. In addition to our Risk Assessment document described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

Bushy Park tennis and Padel Club has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities.
- Safe recruitment of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities.
- Access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Appointing a relevant person.

Please note that all procedures listed are available on request.

The Relevant Person for Bushy Park Tennis and Padel Club is the General Manager.

## **Section 5 – Implementation**

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our Club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

Please note the following:

- All staff / volunteers have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, Tusla, and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed in the Clubhouse and on the website of Bushy Park Tennis and Padel Club.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in September 2025.

On behalf of Bushy Park Tennis and Padel Club

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Deputy Liaison Person

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact the Designated Liaison Person.