



KENT
TENNIS

Kent Tennis

Whistleblowing Policy

Version: 2.0

Date: 14 June 2023 (with update 1 July 2024)

Next review: June 2026

This policy will be reviewed following the completion of the LTA review of Safeguarding.



TENNIS
FOR BRITAIN

SAFEGUARDING 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 county association, 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?

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 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, county training and county cup events.

If a child or an adult at risk is in immediate danger or risk of harm, the police should be contacted by calling 999.

Where a child or an adult at risk is not in immediate danger, any concerns about their wellbeing should be made without delay to the venue or club Welfare Officer or Kent Tennis Safeguarding Officer. The Welfare Officer Or Kent Tennis Safeguarding 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 venue Welfare Officer or the Kent Tennis Safeguarding Officer, the whistle blower should contact the LTA Safeguarding Team directly on 020 8487 7000 or by email at safeguarding@lta.org.uk, or the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) or the NSPCC on 0800 800 5000. Alternatively the LTA Safeguarding Team can be contacted by raising a concern directly on the LTA website at: <https://safeguardingconcern.lta.org.uk/>

Further information on safeguarding can be found on the Kent Tennis website: [Kent County Tennis | Kent Lawn Tennis Association | Greater London \(\[kenttennis.org.uk\]\(https://kenttennis.org.uk\)\)](#)

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 whistle blower 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

Kent Tennis 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.

This Policy is recommended for approval by:

Kent Tennis County Safeguarding Officer, Janice White

Approved at Kent Tennis Board of Management meeting on 11 September 2023

Malcolm Smith, Chair, Kent Tennis

Luke House, County Safeguarding Board member

This Policy was updated with change of County Safeguarding Officer Jane Parish on 1 July 2024

Updated and approved by Kent Tennis CIO Board of Trustees 1 July 2024