



Causeway Tennis and Bowls Club

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 Executive 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 within the club
- To serve on the Executive 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 Executive 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 Executive 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 procedure and best practice with regard to Child Protection by serving on the Executive Committee of the club



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- To manage and report concerns and to advise on poor practices 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 with Safeguarding Course Level 1 and 2 as a minimum requirement
- The Children's Officers do not have the responsibility of investigating or validating child protection concerns within the club and therefore have no counseling or therapeutic role. This is the responsibility of statutory organizations

Minimum Requirements (Children's Officer)

Completion of the following:

- Garda Vetting process in Ireland and in any other country in which the officer ordinarily resided in
- Safeguarding 1 - Basic Awareness Workshop in Child Welfare & Protection and Safeguarding 2 - Club Children's Officer Workshop – with valid certificates to be furnished in advance to the executive committee
- Compliance with the requirements of the club's Recruitment Procedures (Appendix 5 of the policy document)

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 child protection codes and guidelines (which will be acquired through the 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 organisational skills



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CHILDREN'S OFFICERS 2023/2024

The current Causeway Tennis and Bowls Club Children's Officers are:



Alison Spratt
Mobile No: 086 1634515



Jamie Hallahan
Mobile No: 083 162 6842

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 President of the Club
(The current President is Pat Barron – M: 085-8443366)**