

## **TRING SQUASH CLUB – WELFARE AND SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

This document sets out Tring Squash Club's Welfare and Safeguarding policy.

The club's policy is based on the guidelines issued by England Squash & Racquetball, which we have adapted to make them work for our club.

The club is a member's club run on a volunteer basis with the exception of professional coaching and certain other tasks. The club operates a self-service model for the booking and playing of squash. No staff are on duty.

**Everyone using the club should make sure they know where the fire exits are and where the first aid kit is (in the kitchen).**

### **Principles of our Welfare and Safeguarding Policy**

The club has a Welfare Officer to help promote good behaviour and to help manage bad behaviour when it happens.

The name and contact details of the Welfare Officer can be found on the notice board in the club and on the website.

- The club wants to promote a culture in which all are listened to and respected as individuals
- The club wants to safeguard the welfare of all members, with a particular focus on children and young players.
- The club wants to ensure that squash is fun and we promote fair play
- Please report all concerns about unacceptable behaviour to our Welfare Officer.
- Please report all allegations/suspensions of abuse to our Welfare Officer.
- We work to create an open environment and we encourage parental involvement.
- We try to avoid one to one situations unsupervised in the coaching environment.
- In normal play it is the responsibility of parents/carer/guardian to supervise their children.
- The club tries to work to the Principles of the Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Squash Policy
- We request the parent/carer/guardian of every junior member and every junior taking part in coaching or any other formal squash activity (such as playing for the squash club in matches) to complete a consent form.
- The consent form is renewed every year.

### **Changing Policy**

- We are a volunteer run club and as such are not able to provide supervised visits for young people to the toilet or changing rooms.
- The club does not have separate changing and shower facilities for young people.
- It is the decision and responsibility of the parent/carer/guardians of a young person to use the toilets or changing facilities. Adult players may be using the facility at the same time.
- If young players play for adult teams they and their parents/carer/guardians should be aware that most venues do not have separate changing facilities for young people.

- If adults and young people need to share a changing facility, the club will need consent from the parents that their child/children can share a changing room with adults in the club
- If young people need to share changing facilities with adults, their parents/carer/guardians are allowed to supervise them whilst they are changing, where possible.
- If young people are uncomfortable changing or showering in public the club encourages them to do this at home.
- Adults and unaccompanied young people should not use the showers at the same time. It is the responsibility of everyone to ensure that this does not happen. Young people or adults should wait until the shower is free to avoid this situation. Parents/guardians of young people should make sure the young person understands this.

### **Transport Policy**

- It is the responsibility of parent/carer/guardian to transport their child/children to and from the Club.
- It is not the coach's or volunteer's responsibility to transport the young people to and from the Club.
- The coach or activity supervisor will not, except in exceptional circumstances:-
  - Take the child home or to any other location
  - Send the child home with another person without permission.

### **Late Collection**

If a parent /carer/guardian is late the coach or activity supervisor will:

- Attempt to contact the parent/carer/guardian or emergency contact (if provided)
- Wait with the young person at the Club and wherever possible with other volunteers or parents
- If parents/carers/guardian or emergency contact remain un-contactable the coach or another volunteer may have to report the situation to Children's Social Care or the Police if no other means of getting the young person home is available.

### **Using private cars**

- The club expects parents to transport their children to and from club-organised events. If parents are happy for their child to travel with coaches, club volunteers, team managers or umpires, then this will be a private arrangement between the parent and the driver.

### **General Policy**

- The Club must receive permission from parents/carers/guardians for young people to participate in all competitions and away fixtures/events.
- Members should behave on court and around the club in courteous way to others to ensure there is an environment that is free from harassment or intimidation.
- We are keen to promote squash as a sport accessible to everyone. If you or a child of yours has a disability and want to talk through what may be possible in terms of squash at Tring please contact the Welfare Officer and we will be pleased to try to help.