

Child Safeguarding Policy

Club Welfare Officer

Nick Thompson

Old Wilsonians Squash Club is committed to a safe, inclusive and positive environment for children, young people and adults at risk. We adopt England Squash's safeguarding framework and implement best practice at club level, including clear reporting, safer recruitment/DBS, training, supervision, and information sharing protocols.

Purpose & Scope

Applies to anyone under 18 involved in club activity. We recognise our duty under the Children Act and adopt England Squash's policy and procedures for safeguarding children and young people.

Principles

The welfare of the child is paramount; all children have the right to be protected from abuse and poor practice; safeguarding is everyone's responsibility; equality, diversity, and inclusion are integral to safe sport.

Roles & Responsibilities

Committee ensures policy implementation and resources; coaches/volunteers follow good practice and complete safeguarding training; parents/carers are partners in safety; the Club Welfare Officer coordinates concerns and reporting.

Types & Indicators of Abuse

Physical, emotional, sexual abuse and neglect; bullying and cyberbullying; grooming; discriminatory abuse; peer on peer abuse. Staff and volunteers will be alert to signs and patterns of concern and act promptly.

Safer Practice

Use consent forms and registers; maintain appropriate adult to child supervision ratios; plan safe sessions; follow changing room, transport and pick up guidance; only communicate with juniors via approved channels with parent/carer copied.

Reporting & Recording: If anyone is in immediate danger, call emergency services. Otherwise, raise concerns with the Club Welfare Officer (Nick Thompson) and/or via England Squash's reporting routes. Use the club log of concern to record facts, actions and decisions, store securely, and share on a need to know basis.

Club Welfare Officer: Nick Thompson is the named Welfare Officer for the club. Contact details are published on the club website.

Review: This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner following an incident, change in legislation, or England Squash guidance.

References

England Squash – Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy and Procedures (2024 PDF)

England Squash – Safeguarding: Policies & Guidance (hub):

<https://www.englandsquash.com/safeguarding/policies-and-procedures>

England Squash – Safeguarding hub: <https://www.englandsquash.com/safeguarding>