



Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club

Child Safeguarding Statement 2025

Section 1: Club Information

- (a) **Name:** Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club,
- (b) **Sport:** Tennis & Squash
- (c) **Location:** Elton Park, Sandy Cove, Co. Dublin, A96 HX97
- (d) **Size:** 950 members / 300 Junior members / 5 staff members
- (e) **Activities:** Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club provides tennis and squash activities and opportunities for children, in addition to which the coaching of children in these sports which takes place in the Club.

Section 2: Principles to safeguard children from harm

The Club, its' staff, volunteers and coaches operating within the Club are all committed to safeguarding children and to creating a safe environment within which children can have fun and enjoy their sporting activities. The following set of principles must be adhered to:

- I. **Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in tennis.
- II. **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.
- III. **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 the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- IV. **Fair Play** - All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasised, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- V. **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- VI. **Competition** - Competition is an essential element of tennis and should be encouraged in an age and level appropriate manner. A child centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place
- VII. **Equality** - All children and adults should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.

As it is required by child protection law (Children's First Act, 2015), the Club has undertaken a Risk Assessment of the potential harm to a child while participating in events or activities taking place in the Club. It indicates the required policy, guidance or process documents required to minimise and/or manage the risks identified.



Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club Child Safeguarding Statement 2025

This Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with the obligations and requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017), Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice. Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club has procedures in place:

- to ensure the safety, supervision and protection of all children in our care,
- for the alleviation and management of the risks identified,
- in respect of any member of staff or coach who is the subject of any investigation in respect of matters or circumstances regarding a child availing of the Club's facilities,
- for the recruitment of staff and the appointment of coaches regarding their suitability to work with children,
- for the provision of appropriate information and training to members of staff as regards child protection and the identification of the occurrence of harm,
- for the reporting of child protection concerns to the statutory authorities,
- for the appointment of the persons who will be the point of contact regarding child protection for the purposes of this child safeguarding statement.

The Club Children's Officers (CCOs) in Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club are Ms. Emma Taylor and Mr. Ian Brady. The Club's Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Mr. Ian Brady.

Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support the Club's aim to keep children safe from harm while availing of the services/activities that it provides. The Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in April 2027, or earlier if required to do so by changes in legislation or guidance.

Any query relating to this Child Safeguarding Statement should be addressed to the Honorary President or Club Children's Officers at: Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club, Elton Park, Sandy Cove, Co. Dublin, A96 HX97. Telephone: +353 (01) 2808769. Email: office@sandycovetsc.ie

Signed: <u>Carolyn Moore</u>	Signed: <u>Emma Taylor</u>	Signed: <u>Ian Brady</u>
Name: Ms. Carolyn Moore	Name: Ms. Emma Taylor	Name: Mr. Ian Brady
Role: Honorary President	Role: Club Children's Officer	Role: Club Children's Officer
Date: 11 Nov. 2025.	Date: 4/11/2025	Date: 11 Nov 2025



Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment 2025

Section 3 - Risk Assessment Document for Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club

This Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club 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 require to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening - Low Medium High (L,M,H)	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Further action required ...
CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES				
Lack of coaching qualification	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coach education policy Recruitment policy 	Club	To update and refine the coach education policy in line with latest TI requirements and adapt the recruitment policy to specifically cover coaching.
Supervision issues	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision policy Coach education policy 	Club	Supervision policy to be updated. We will recommend implementing actions to mobilise the committee to ensure closer adherence to the policy in line with TI guidelines. Review in 6 months (form a subcommittee)
Unauthorised photography & recording activities	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photography and Use of Images policy 	Club	We will add a Photographic & Video Recording Policy and recommend steps to communicate and ensure adherence to the policy. Review in 6 months.
Behavioural Issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Conduct Safeguarding Level 1 (min) Complaints & Disciplinary policy 	Club	To determine if the recent steps taken to increase visibility of the Code of Conduct, with a focus on safeguarding training for club roles, has translated into a change of positive behaviour. Review post Junior Summer programme, with tennis leaders.



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Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening - Low Medium High (L,M,H)	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Further action required ...
Lack of gender balance amongst coaches	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coach education policy Supervision policy 	Club	Update both coach education and supervision policy in line with latest TI requirements. Review in 6 months.
No guidance for travelling and away trips	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel/Away trip policy Child Safeguarding Training 	Club	Travel/Away trip policy in place but requires inclusion of appendices – i.e. trips away safeguarding checklist, additional forms and template documents.
Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy (i.e. mobile, photography, transport)	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding policy Complaints & disciplinary policy 	Club	Best practice safeguarding guidelines to include the addition of a new photographic & video recording policy and communications policy.
COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE				
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy Communications procedure 	Club	Greater communication re: complaints policy is required. We recommend that the Hon. President sends a communication to members to elaborate on this policy process.
Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent Reason: Covered above	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy Communications procedure 	Club	Greater communication is required to raise awareness of the complaints policy for members. How to raise a complaint, to whom and what is involved in the process.
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy 	Club	<i>Ongoing review</i>



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REPORTING PROCEDURES				
Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy Coach education policy Code of Conduct /Behaviour 	NGB MP DLP	Club committee have a broader awareness of the statutory requirements of the reporting procedure. Requirement to be aware of the reporting policies & procedures in place.
No Mandated Person appointed	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy 	NGB	<i>Ongoing review.</i>
No DLP Appointed	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy 	NGB Club	We recommend that we should have 1 DLP and 2 CCOs (1 female:1 male) in place as per TI guidelines.
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 	MP DLP	We recommend publicising internal and external reporting procedures. Review in 6 months.
Not clear who Young Person should talk to or report to	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post the names of CCOs, DLPs and MP 	CCO DLP	Ongoing review (via communications & safeguarding training).
FACILITIES				
Unauthorised access to designated children's play & practice areas and to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision policy Coach education 	NGB Club	To update the Supervision policy. Review in 6 months.
Unauthorised exit from children's areas	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision policy Coach education 	Club	To update the Supervision policy. Review in 6 months.



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Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening - Low Medium High (L,M,H)	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Further action required ...
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photography policy and use of devices in private zones 	Club	New Photographic & Video recording policy to be drafted and communicated. To update the Supervision policy. Review in 6 months.
Missing or found child on site	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missing or found child policy 	Club	<i>Ongoing review.</i>
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding policy 	Club	When reviewing facilities for members, children's needs should be considered as well in any future club refurbishment project.
RECRUITMENT				
Recruitment of inappropriate people	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment policy 	NGB Club CCO Appropriate personnel	Amendment to the recruitment policy to state that coaches should be fully registered with TI as a licensed coach.
Lack of clarity on roles	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment policy 	Club	Amendment to the recruitment policy to broaden criteria to be fully complied with by coaches, volunteers and post-holders in line with TI (inc junior assistants).
Unqualified or untrained people in role	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment policy 	Club	Ongoing review to ensure that all roles involved with young person's receive safeguarding training.
COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA				
Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Statement Training policy 	National Club DLP CCO	We will add a new communications policy, including social media, which should be clearly communicated to all members. Review in 6 months.



Sandycove Tennis & Squash Club

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Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening - Low Medium High (L,M,H)	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Further action required ...
No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Behaviour to members or visitors	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Statement – display Code of Behaviour - distribute 	Club Executive County Committee DLP Children’s Officer	As part of this RA, the Child Safeguarding Statement will be updated and attached with RA for Committee to review, approve and sign.
Unauthorised photography & recording of activities	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photography and Use of Images policy 	Club	New Photographic & Video recording policy to be drafted and communicated. Review in 6 months.
Inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18’s	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications policy Code of conduct 	Club	New Communications policy, including social media, will be drafted and communicated. Review in 6 months.
Inappropriate use of social media and communications with under 18’s	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications policy Code of conduct. 		New Communications policy, including social media, will be drafted and communicated. Review in 6 months.
GENERAL RISK OF HARM				
Harm not being recognized	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding policy Child Safeguarding Training 	Club	Continuing to focus on ensuring club committee members, junior teams & assistants have safeguarding & first aid training, Maintain ongoing certification records. Create awareness of ongoing training requirements by all adults who have roles working with/supervising juniors and reporting procedures.



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Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening - Low Medium High (L,M,H)	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Further action required ...
Harm caused by - child to child - coach to child - volunteer to child - member to child - visitor to child	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding policy ▪ Child Safeguarding Training 	Club	Supervision policy to be updated, communicated and reviewed in 6 months.
General behavioural issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Conduct 	Club	Ongoing monitoring & review

Explanation of terms used:

Potential risk of harm to children – these are identified risks of harm to children whilst accessing activities in the Club/Park/Province/NGB.

Likelihood of harm happening – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the club/park/province/NGB measured by you as Low/Medium or High.

Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document – indication of the policy required to alleviate the risk.

Responsibility – provider should indicate where the responsibility for alleviating the risk lies.

Further action... - indicates further action that might be necessary to alleviate any risk ongoing.



Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club

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This Risk Assessment document has been discussed and completed by (insert Club/Region/NGB as provider) on __/__/

Signed: Carolyn Moore.

Name: CAROLYN MOORE.

Role: (insert role on Committee) Honorary President.

Date: 29/8/25.

Signed: Emma Taylor (CCO)

Ian Brady CCO + DLP

Name: Emma Taylor

IAN BRADY

Club Children's Officer _____

Date: 29/8/2025

29/8/2025



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Section 4 – Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice and Gateway Northern Ireland). 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.

Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities.
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedures for managing trips away and hosting children.

Section 5 – Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash 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:

- That all staff have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed in a prominent place in the Club

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in **April 2027**

Signed: 

Date: 29.8.25

(On behalf of the **Any Club**)

Name: 

Phone no: 0868251363

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact - Any Club Children's Officer