



Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club Child Safeguarding Statement

Section 1 – Club information

Branch details:

- (a) **Name:** Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club
- (b) **Sport:** Tennis & Squash
- (c) **Location:** Elton Park, Sandy Cove
- (d) **Size:** 791 members/ 5 staff
- (e) **Activities:** Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club provides tennis and squash activities and opportunities for children and young people through participation in parks, clubs, regional, provincial events and with our representative teams. Tennis Ireland and Irish Squash (the National Governing Bodies or **NGBs**) are committed to safeguarding children and young people. All our affiliated stakeholders work under the guidance and policies of our Safeguarding Code. All our volunteers and staff working with children throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for children and young people to participate in sport.

Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm

Sandy Cove Tennis & Squash Club is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our NGB governing bodies' Safeguarding Policies our staff, both volunteers and employed, working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within sport. The following set of principles should 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 sports 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 squash 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 should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.

Section 3 - Risk Assessment

The Club written 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 required to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
<p>Club and Coaching Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Need to ensure adequate coaching qualification. ● Supervision issues. ● Unauthorised photography & recording activities. ● Behavioural Issues. ● Need for gender balance amongst coaches ● Need for guidance for travelling & away trips ● Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy 	<p>Club and Coaching Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coach education policy/Recruitment policy. ● Supervision policy/Coach education policy ● Photography & Use of Images policy ● Code of Conduct / Safeguarding 1 / Complaints & Disciplinary policy. ● Coach education policy / Supervision policy. ● Travel/Away trip policy / Child Safeguarding Training. ● Safeguarding Policy / Complaints & disciplinary policy

<p>Complaints & Discipline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy. ● Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent ● Complaints not being dealt with seriously 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy / Communications procedure. ● Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy / Communications procedure. ● Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy.
<p>Reporting Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures ● No Designated Liaison Person (DLP) appointed. ● Concerns of abuse or harm not reported. ● Not clear who a child should talk to or report to. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reporting procedures/policy / Coach Education policy / Code of Conducts ● Reporting procedures/policy. ● Reporting procedures/policy / Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 ● Publicise the names of Club Children’s Officers (CCOs), DLP and Mandated Person (MP).
<p>Use of Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Unauthorised access to designated children’s play & practice areas & to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc..... ● Unauthorised exit from children’s areas. ● Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas. ● Missing or found child on site. ● Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supervision policy / Coach Education. ● Supervision policy / Coach Education. ● Photography policy and use of devices in private zones. ● Missing or found child policy. ● Safeguarding policy.

<p>Recruitment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recruitment of inappropriate people. ● Lack of clarity on roles. ● Unqualified or untrained people in role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recruitment policy. ● Recruitment policy. ● Recruitment policy.
<p>Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors. ● No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Behaviour to members of visitors. ● Unauthorised photography & recording of activities. ● Inappropriate use of social media & communications by under 18’s ● Inappropriate use of social media & communications with under 18’s. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child Safeguarding Statement / Training Policy. ● Child Safeguarding Statement (display) / Code of Behaviour (distribute). ● Photography & Use of Images policy ● Communications policy / Code of conduct ● Communications policy / Code of conduct

<p>General Risk of Harm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm not being recognised. ● Harm caused by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Child to Child. ▪ Coach to Child. ▪ Volunteer to Child. ▪ Member to Child. ▪ Visitor to Child. ● General behavioural issues. ● Issues of Bullying. ● Vetting of staff/volunteers. ● Issues of Online Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Safeguarding policy / Child Safeguarding Training. ● Safeguarding policy / Child Safeguarding Training. ● Code of Conduct. ● Anti-Bullying policy. ● Recruitment policy / Vetting policy. ● Social Media / Online Safety policy.
---	---

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on **15 July 2021**.

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.

The 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 reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Procedures for managing trips away and hosting children.

Please note that all procedures listed are available on request. The Relevant Person for the Club is the Club Designated Liaison Person.

CHILDREN'S OFFICERS and MANDATED PERSON

The Children's Officers within Sandycove Tennis and Squash Club are:

Children's officer:	Natalie Doyle 086 3983431
Children's Officer and Designated Liaison Person:	Keith O'Byrne 087 9416701
Mandated Person:	Roger Geraghty roger.geraghty@tennisireland.ie

Photographs of the Children's Officers are displayed on the Club's notice board.

Names of Children's Officers shall be made known to young members, coaches and parents alike as the Designated Persons to whom concerns will be addressed. If the concern is about the Children's Officer, please report to the Club President or Committee member.

Section 5 – Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our 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 by the Club.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 15 July 2023

Signed:  Date: 15/7/2021

(On behalf of the Sandycove Squash and Tennis Club)

Name: DARRYL TIZZARD Phone no: 086 2108317

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact the Club Children's Officers

Risk Assessment (RS)

This risk assessment considers the potential for harm to come to children whilst they are in the care of Sandycove Tennis & Squash Club (the **Club**). This risk assessment precedes the Child Safeguarding Statement (Section 11 (1b) Children First Act 2015) which is developed following this risk assessment process. In accordance with the requirements of Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015 (ROI) the risk is of abuse and not general health and safety risk. (covered under a separate H&S policy and risk assessment).

Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015 (ROI) states that where a person proposes to operate as a provider of a relevant service, he or she shall, within 3 months from the date on which he or she commences as such a provider –

Undertake an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of the service (in this section referred to as a “risk”).

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 Code of conduct for coaches 	Club/NGB	<i>Ongoing Review</i>
Supervision issues	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision policy Coach education policy Code of Conduct for coaches 	Club	<i>Ongoing review and monitoring to identify staff, club officers, parents and members who should attend Safeguarding Training and be Garda vetted</i>
Unauthorised photography & recording activities	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photography and Use of Images policy Social Media and Communications Policy 	Club	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Behavioural Issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Conduct Safeguarding Level 1 (min) Complaints & Disciplinary policy 	Club/ NGB	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Lack of gender balance amongst coaches	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coach education policy Supervision policy Recruitment Policy 	Club	<i>Ongoing review</i>
No guidance for travelling and away trips	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel/Away trip policy Child Safeguarding Training 	Club	<i>Ongoing review</i>

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 ▪ Safeguarding Training Policy 	Club	<i>Ongoing review</i>
COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE				
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy ▪ Communications procedure 	Club	<i>Immediate action needed - members to be notified of updated Child Safeguarding Policy and Statement which includes Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure</i>
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	<i>As above</i>
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy 	Club CCO DLP	<i>Ongoing review</i>
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 Conducts 	NGB MP DLP CCO STSC	<i>Ongoing review</i>
No Mandated Person appointed	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reporting procedures/policy 	NGB	<i>Publicise identity of Mandated Person Train Mandated Person in their role</i>
No DLP Appointed	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reporting procedures/policy 	NGB STSC	<i>Train all DLPs Publicise identity of DLPs</i>

Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reporting procedures/policy ▪ Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 	MP DLP	<i>Include in Safeguarding Training (L1)</i> <i>Publicise names of CCOs, DLPs, MP(s)</i> <i>Publicise internal and external reporting procedures</i>
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	<i>Communicate in Club</i> <i>Include in Safeguarding Training (L1)</i>
FACILITIES				
Unauthorised access to designated children’s play & practice areas and to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supervision policy ▪ Coach education 	NGB Club	<i>Maintain current policy that ensures children only have access under adult supervision</i>
Unauthorised exit from children’s areas	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supervision policy ▪ Coach education 	Club	<i>Clarify responsibilities and ongoing review</i>
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Photography policy and use of devices in private zones 	Club	<i>Enforce policy in private changing and wet areas</i>
Missing or found child on site	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Missing or found child policy 	Club	<i>Refer to policy and inform Gardai</i>
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding policy ▪ Supervision Policy ▪ Codes of Conduct 	Club	<i>Maintain/ Enforce policy that child access to shared facilities is restricted for their protection</i>
RECRUITMENT				
Recruitment of inappropriate people	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recruitment policy 	NGB Club CCO Appropriate personnel	<i>Ongoing review</i>

Lack of clarity on roles	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment policy 	Club	<i>Check job description For all roles and ensure ongoing review and supervision</i>
Unqualified or untrained people in role	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment policy 	Club	<i>Check qualification Ongoing review</i>
COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA				
Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Statement Training policy 	NGB Club DLP CCO	<i>Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement</i>
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 Codes of Conduct - distribute 	Club DLP CCO	<i>Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement Distribute Code or Sections as appropriate</i>
Unauthorised photography & recording of activities	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photography and Use of Images policy 	Club	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18's	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Media Policy Communications & Mobile Phone Policy Codes of conduct 	Club	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Inappropriate use of social media and communications with under 18's	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Media Policy Communications & Mobile Phone Policy Codes of conduct 	Club	<i>Ongoing review</i>
GENERAL RISK OF HARM				
Harm not being recognised	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding policy Child Safeguarding Training 	Club	<i>Ongoing review</i>

Harm caused by - child to child - coach to child - volunteer to child - member to child - visitor to child	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding policy ▪ Child Safeguarding Training 	Club	<i>Ongoing review</i>
General behavioural issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Codes of Conduct 	Club	<i>Take disciplinary action where necessary Sign code of conduct</i>

Explanation of terms used:

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

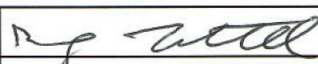
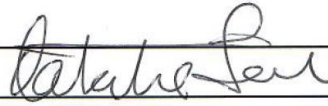
Likelihood of harm happening – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the club/ province/NGB measured by you as Low/Medium or High.

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.

This Risk Assessment document has been discussed and completed by Sandycove Tennis & Squash Club on 15th July 2021.

Signed		Signed	
Name	Barry TOTTERDELL	Name	Natalie Flanagan
Role	President	Club Children's Officer	club children's officer
Date	15/7/2021	Date	15.7.21