
Why is this leaflet important?

We pride ourselves in providing a safe & secure environment for everyone at Halton & in particular our children & vulnerable young adults should feel safe and confident here. We will be vigilant to ensure this is always the case.

From October 2018, all LTA registered tennis venues will need to meet:

- Have a Safeguarding Policy that has been clearly communicated to all involved at the venue.
- Have a Diversity & Inclusion Policy that has been clearly communicated to all involved at the venue.
- Have a Welfare Officer who has undergone the necessary training.
- Ensure that relevant volunteers, staff, coaches and officers of the venue have had a satisfactory Criminal Records Check.
- An annual Risk Assessment of your venue and its facilities.

Halton Contacts

Welfare Officer

Tom Mayer: 07771 701629

CEO & Asst Welfare Officer

Nick Leighton: 07863 169839

Club Chairman

Mike James: 07958 008312

Admin Office

01296 623453
07922 012443 (Gill)

External Contacts

LTA Safeguarding Team

0208 487 7000

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

01296 382070

NSPCC

0808 800 5000



HALTON
TENNIS CENTRE



Safeguarding
children
and vulnerable
young adults

October 2018

What are my responsibilities when at Halton?

For everyone who comes to Halton - staff, members, parents & visitors, we have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of our young people. We have published our Safeguarding Policy on the Club Office & Junior Noticeboard.

What are we doing at Halton?

At Halton we carry out regular Risk Assessments and benefit from the expertise of a trained Welfare Officer and some 65 staff, a significant number of whom coach/train children & as such have Enhanced DBS clearance and attended the LTA Safeguarding course.

In addition, we have invested in some 26 security cameras positioned around the site.

Which children need protection?

You may become aware whilst working with a child or vulnerable young adult that there are some problems at home or elsewhere that give you cause for concern.

You may notice unexplained marks or bruising, or changes in the child's behaviour or demeanour. Sometimes children display aggressive behaviour, become withdrawn or unable to concentrate.

What should I do if I am worried?

At Halton we have a Welfare Officer specially trained in child protection who will know what to do. You should report your concerns to them that day or someone else on this leaflet. They will deal with the matter in an appropriate way.

What should I do if a child discloses that they are being harmed?

Although the likelihood of this is small it is important to know what to do in such an eventuality.

Listen to the child, without making judgements
Take what they tell you seriously, children rarely lie about such matters

Explain that you can't keep the information secret and must pass it on to someone who will know what to do.

Don't interrogate the child and ask leading questions, such as "what did he/she do next". Try and convey to the child that they are not to blame for what has happened, though at the same time avoid criticising the alleged abuser.

Don't make promises that you can't keep but tell the child what you are going to do.

What should I do next?

Make a record of the name of the child, what s/he said, (in their own words), the date, time and place. Find the Welfare Officer or Deputy as soon as possible and give the information to him/her.

What should I do if the alleged abuser is a member of the Club staff?

You should report such allegations to the CEO. If the allegation is about the CEO or Welfare Officer contact the Club Chairman.

How do I ensure that my behaviour is always appropriate?

Appropriate relationships with children should be based on mutual trust and respect. Children, especially when they are young, are often spontaneously affectionate and tactile and it is important not to alienate them through lack of response or by appearing to reject this.

You should, however, be careful about touching players.

Avoid being over familiar as this can be misinterpreted by a young person.

Do not photograph juniors, exchange emails or text messages, or give out your own personal details.

Coaches/Trainers: If you are working with a junior player/athlete on his/her own always ensure that the door is left open or that you can be visible to others. Never make arrangements to meet a junior player/athlete on their own outside the club without parental permission.

Thank you
