

MDL COACHING's Child Protection Policy .

- MDL COACHING aims to create an enjoyable environment for all children who wish to take part in tennis at any of our clubs or within schools.
- The Clubs emphasises that young people have the right to be safe, secure and free from threat.
- MDL COACHING will ensure that junior members have specific tennis programmes in place when joining any of the clubs we are involved with.
- All our clubs have procedures in place to help any young person who requests help and support on a confidential basis, in issues relating to Child Protection.
- MDL COACHING will ensure that all our coaches hold or, are working towards a full LTA Coach License and that all persons working with us will have had a CRB check.
- Issues regarding child protection should be raised with Mark Love.

OUR TENNIS CHARTER THAT WE ADHERE TO AT ALL CLUBS WE ARE INVOLVED WITH:

. **Introduction**

1.1 The clubs acknowledge the need to ensure, as far as they are able, that children using the tennis facilities are in all respects provided with a safe and respectful environment. To this end we have introduced this three way charter, (the club, the tennis coaching staff and the parents), alongside a Child Protection Policy,

1.2 However, parents are asked to recognise that all sports have an inherent risk to them and accidents cannot be eliminated entirely.

2. The Clubs will:

2.1 ensure that junior players receive equitable status and treatment alongside other club members.

2.2 provide a safe playing environment, as far as it is able, e.g. well maintained courts and fencing.

2.3 provide shelter in poor weather conditions in the main clubhouse or tennis pavilion.

2.4 give access to drink during organised coaching sessions.

2.5 ensure 'as far as they are able' that the Club Tennis Coach, coaching assistants and other carers are of good character. All will be required to complete a Child Protection Self-Declaration Form, approved by the LTA, and adopt the LTA Code of Ethics and Conduct.

2.6 provide a tennis coach of recognised good character on a contract of services basis. The Coach, apart from demonstrating good technical and teaching skills, will have or be working towards a minimum of the LTA's Tennis Development Coaching Award (DCA) but preferably a full LTA coaching license.

2.7 provide a well-stocked first aid kit for the use of the Tennis Coach who will have undertaken a first aid course. The Tennis Coach will also have access to emergency services' addresses and telephone numbers.

2.8 ensure that the Tennis Club maintains an attendance register for coaching sessions and an accident / incident register.

2.9 carry insurance for Public Liability risks.

3. The Tennis Coach will:

- 3.1 be responsible for the management of coaching for juniors and expected to provide, as far as he/she is able, a safe environment for all children.
- 3.2 have sole control over how coaching sessions are managed and how tennis assistants are used.
- 3.3 have the objective of developing the tennis playing skills of junior players SAFELY.
- 3.4 ensure that all training sessions are preceded with appropriate 'warm-up' exercises.
- 3.5 adhere to the LTA's Code of Ethics and Conduct.
- 3.6 keep up-to-date with tennis coaching techniques and other appropriate skills by attending selected courses or seminars e.g. first aid.
- 3.7 acquaint himself / herself with any specific needs of a child in conjunction with parents / guardians: e.g. medication or collection.
- 3.8 maintain a register of attendance for coaching sessions and an accident / incident register.
- 3.9 maintain a contact address / telephone register of parents / guardians.
- 3.10 maintain a register of emergency services in the area.
- 3.11 have a 'Coach' specific policy of insurance.
- 3.12 in addition to coaching, arranging internal and external competitive tennis and manage junior players' requirements for National Ratings.
- 3.13 not allow children to participate in coaching sessions or matches if they are clearly unwell or injured.
- 3.14 set a good example to junior players in terms of conduct, including language and dress.

4. The Parents are asked to:

- 4.1 inform the coach or Junior Secretary of any medical conditions or other restrictions that they should be aware of in relation to their child / children and the sport.
- 4.2 deliver and collect their child / children punctually at the appointed training session times, or in relation to collection on the day inform the Coach of any difficulty by telephone.
- 4.3 agree any extension of the set training session times with the coach.
- 4.4 keep the Coach aware of any change of address or contact telephone number.
- 4.5 provide their children with the appropriate clothing or other protection e.g. sun cream for the anticipated weather conditions.
- 4.6 provide their children with the appropriate food and drink to cover the time of the tennis session e.g. if the sessions is directly after school sustenance may be required to see them through the session.
- 4.7 encourage their child / children to respect the Club, its Coach, carers and property at all times, to create and maintain a harmonious, friendly and fruitful relationship.
- 4.8 encourage their child / children to help keep the court tidy by removing their rubbish when they leave the club.
- 4.9 recognise that whilst the Club has an 'open door' approach to court usage, thus encouraging practice, they do not and cannot provide supervision of children outside of

the managed coaching sessions. Children may therefore use the courts during the day (other than at specific adult sessions or matches), but they do so at the parents' / guardians' sole risk.

4.10 to assist the Club's cash flow to ensure that club fees are paid promptly. However, if there is a financial problem please consult with the coach who may be able to assist. Please do not withdraw a keen tennis playing child from the club for financial reasons.