



WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY

WHISTLEBLOWING

Safeguarding children and adults at risk requires everyone to be committed to the highest possible standards of openness, integrity and accountability. As a Club we are committed to encouraging and maintaining a culture where people feel able to raise a genuine safeguarding concern and are confident that it will be taken seriously.

WHAT IS WHISTLEBLOWING?

In the context of safeguarding, “whistleblowing” is when someone raises a concern about the wellbeing of a child or an adult at risk.

A whistleblower may be:

- a player
- a volunteer
- a coach
- other member of staff
- an official
- a parent
- a member of the public

HOW TO RAISE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD OR AN ADULT AT RISK AT THE CLUB

If a child or an adult at risk is in immediate danger or risk of harm, then the police should be contacted by calling 999.

Where a child or an adult at risk is not in immediate danger, any concerns about their wellbeing should be made without delay to the Club Welfare Officer. The Club Welfare Officer will pass the details of the concern on to the LTA Safeguarding Team at the earliest opportunity and the relevant local authority and the police will be contacted, where appropriate.

If, however, the whistleblower does not feel comfortable raising a concern with the Club Welfare Officer, the whistleblower should contact the LTA Safeguarding Team using the online form <https://safeguardingconcern.lta.org.uk/>

Or they can call the LTA Safeguarding Team directly on 020 8487 7000, the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) on 0300 470 9100 or the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE WHEN RAISING A CONCERN

The whistleblower should provide as much information as possible regarding the incident or circumstance which has given rise to the concern, including:

- their name and contact details (unless they wish to remain anonymous);
- names of individuals involved;
- date, time and location of incident/circumstance; and
- whether any witnesses were present.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

All concerns raised by a whistleblower and the well-being of a child or adult at risk will be taken seriously and every effort will be made to deal with each concern fairly, quickly and proportionately. If the whistleblower does not believe that the concern has been dealt with appropriately and wishes to speak to someone outside the Club or the LTA Safeguarding Team, the NSPCC Whistleblowing advice line should be contacted on 0800 028 0285 or by emailing help@nspcc.org.uk

SUPPORT

Pit Farm Tennis Club will not tolerate any harassment, victimisation or unfair treatment of, and will take appropriate action to protect, whistleblowers when they raise a concern in good faith.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Club Welfare Officer Liz-Hill Smith – pitfarmwelfare@gmail.com

LTA online concern form <https://safeguardingconcern.lta.org.uk/>

Email: safeguarding@lta.org.uk

LTA 0208 487 7000

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) 0300 470 9100

NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000

Childline 0800 1111 / www.childline.org.uk

Emergency services 999

This policy was approved by the Committee on 29 September 2024 and will be reviewed every two years (or earlier if there is a change in national legislation).

Next Review due:

Date: 1 October 2029

