



Bandon LTC  
Castle Bernard  
Bandon  
Co. Cork

## **Bandon LTC – Child Protection Policy July 2021 – Version 0**

### **Club Children’s Officers**

#### **Introduction**

The club’s Children’s Officers are responsible for leading the implementation of Child Protection Policies and Procedures. In this task they will have the full support of the Executive Committee of the club.

The club’s Children’s Officers will play a fundamental role in the creation of a child centered ethos that promotes the positive aspects of tennis.

This will be achieved by communicating to every adult in the club that they have a duty of care to safeguard the welfare of children and young people in order to protect them from inappropriate behavior and to promote a culture of safety and fun.

In order to do this the club’s Children’s Officers require certain knowledge and skills - some of which are a pre-requisite for the role and others that will be obtained through training and experience.

#### **Role and Responsibilities**

- To establish and promote a child-centered ethos within the club.
- To make themselves known to all members of the club but particularly the junior members.
- To act as an advisory and support resource to those working with children and young people.
- To serve on the Executive Committee of the club and report at each meeting of the committee on matters pertaining to Child Protection within the club.
- To ensure that children, coaches/volunteers and parents/guardians know how to voice concerns within the club or to external agencies.
- To implement, with support from the Executive Committee, the club’s Child Protection Policy and Procedures and to ensure that they are communicated to all members and embraced at all levels within the club
- To ensure that the Child Protection Policy and Procedures are ratified by the Executive Committee.



- To ensure the sign-up to the club's Codes of Conduct by all coaches/volunteers, children and parents/guardians.
- To influence policy and practice in regard to Child Protection by serving on the Executive Committee of the club.
- To manage and report concerns and to advise on poor practice issues which might not reach the threshold of intervention by statutory agencies but nonetheless require to be addressed.
- To promote greater consultation with and participation in club activities by junior members. Further, to ensure that there are ways for junior members to express their views and concerns about their activities and experiences within the club.
- To develop and maintain a register of club personnel who are engaging in regulated activity (as defined by government legislation) with children and young people within the club.
- To implement the required training and vetting needs of club personnel engaging in regulated activity with children.
- To commit to attendance at training as required.
- The Children's Officers do not have the responsibility of investigating or validating child protection concerns within the club and therefore have no counselling or therapeutic role. This is the responsibility of statutory organizations.

### **Minimum Requirements (Children's Officer)**

- Have completed the Garda Vetting process.
- Have attended the Safeguarding 1 - Basic Awareness Workshop in Child Welfare & Protection and Safeguarding 2 - Club Children's Officer Workshop.
- Have complied with the requirements of the club's Recruitment Procedures.

### **Desirable qualities and skills.**

- A Children's Officer should have good communication and listening skills, be approachable and non-judgmental.
- He/she should have a basic knowledge of child welfare and protection codes and guidelines (which will be acquired through appropriate training).
- The position will require the person to be trustworthy, discreet, impartial and sensitive as they will be required to handle and manage confidential material.
- Possession of basic administrative and organizational skills.



# CHILDREN'S OFFICERS 2021

The current Bandon Lawn Tennis Club Children's Officers are:

**Christine Tarrant**



**Mobile No: 086 8255216**

**Sean Murphy**



**Mobile No: 087 2782451**

**If you have any concerns please contact one of the above Children's Officers.**

**If the concern is about the Children's Officer please contact the Chairperson of the Club.**

**(The current Chairperson is Steven Roycroft – ph. 087 7684383)**

**Designated Liaison Person**



The designated Liaison Person in the club is responsible for reporting allegations or suspicions of child abuse to TUSLA Child and Family Agency and An Garda Síochána.

The DLP should also inform the National Children's Officer that a report has been submitted without identifying details.

- The DLP should be knowledgeable about child protection and undertake any training considered necessary i.e. Safeguarding 3
- The DLP should familiarise themselves with the statutory and support services within their locality
- Have knowledge of the Safeguarding Code and relevant child protection legislation (Children First Act 2015 (ROI)/National Vetting Bureau Act 2012-2016 (ROI).

An Garda Síochána may be contacted on 999/112 or [www.garda.ie/en/Contact-Us/](http://www.garda.ie/en/Contact-Us/)

Tusla may be contacted on [www.tusla.ie/get-in-touch/](http://www.tusla.ie/get-in-touch/)

The Bandon LTC Designated Liaison Person 2021 is Eileen McSweeney.

Eileen may be contacted on 087 6902346.