Milford Tennis & Squash Club

Regional League Tennis – Junior player guidelines for captains

Overview

This document provides guidelines for Milford team captains and chaperones where junior players are involved in adult League matches involving teams from Milford Tennis Club.

'Junior' means any player under 18 years of age.

'Chaperone' means the parent or carer of the junior player or another qualified person nominated by the parent or carer. **The chaperone has primary safeguarding responsibility for their junior(s).** The chaperone might also be the team captain or other player on the team.

For the Milford Tennis Club's Safeguarding and Changing Room policies, please refer to the Policies page on the Milford club website.

For the Welfare & Safeguarding officer's contact details, see the Contact List on the **Contact Us** page on the Milford club website.

The Milford Fixture Secretary will advise all opposition fixture secretaries of the Milford Changing Room policy and Milford Safeguarding policy. It is their responsibility to pass this information on to their own captains / chaperones if they are intending to play juniors.

The safeguarding responsibility for opposition juniors lies with the opposition team.

Facilities

Milford has 2 communal changing rooms, one male and one female, used by all club members and visitors. There are also separate male and female single person toilets, just off the clubhouse foyer.

The female changing room has screened shower and toilet cubicles but a communal changing area.

The male changing room has both screened and communal toilets, with communal showers and a communal changing area.

There is a first-aid box and defibrillator in the clubhouse foyer.

Drinking water is freely available separately from the changing rooms and toilets.

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Responsibilities

Captains

These are the responsibility of the Milford captains, for both home and away matches :

- Let your team know if juniors are playing, so that they can be aware of behaviour and language on and off court.
- Know who is chaperoning any Milford junior player(s) and liaise with them on any match details (arrival time at venue, estimated match end time, post-match catering etc).
- Make sure that Milford chaperones are aware of their responsibilities (below)
- As a courtesy, advise the opposition captain if planning to play any juniors.
- If playing 2 juniors, consider pairing each with an adult, especially for younger juniors.
- If the chaperone is also playing in the match, try to pair the junior with the chaperone in order to minimise any match disruption due to safeguarding responsibilities.

Chaperones

These are the responsibility of the Milford chaperones, for both home and away matches :

- For all juniors, ensure appropriate safeguarding is provided, before, during and after the match, including travel to and from the match venue.
- For juniors under 13, the chaperone should remain at the match venue for the duration of the visit.
- In addition, for juniors under 11, be aware of any Changing Room policy for the venue and ensure that the junior is suitably safeguarded if using communal changing rooms / toilets.
- If possible, for home matches, junior players should use the single person toilets in the foyer rather than the toilets in the communal changing rooms.
- If possible, junior players should be asked to attend the venue dressed ready to play rather than having to use communal rooms.