

Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy

Adopted: 12 October 2026 | Next review: 1 October 2027

1. Our commitment

Ouyen Lawn Tennis Club is committed to providing a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment for all children and young people.

We have zero tolerance for child abuse, harm, grooming, racism, discrimination, bullying, harassment or inappropriate behaviour towards children.

Child safety is everyone's responsibility. We want children to feel safe, respected and confident to speak up if something does not feel right.

This policy applies to all club activities involving children.

2. Our child-safety framework

The club complies with the Victorian Child Safe Standards and applicable Tennis Australia safeguarding requirements.

The club has adopted and will comply with applicable Tennis Australia policies, including the Member Protection Policy, Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct and Code of Behaviour.

The Committee has overall responsibility for maintaining the club's child-safety arrangements.

3. Child Safety Contacts and MPIO

Child Safety Contacts: James Morrish and Jannine Prasad. James and Jannine provide approachable points of contact for children, parents and others with child-safety concerns.

Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO): Scott Brady. The MPIO provides information about member-protection and complaint processes and assists people to understand available reporting pathways.

These roles do not investigate serious allegations themselves. Matters will be referred to Tennis Australia, Victoria Police, child protection authorities or another appropriate body where required.

4. Children, families and inclusion

The club will:

- listen to children and take their concerns seriously;
- encourage children to speak up if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable;
- provide child-friendly ways to raise concerns;
- communicate child-safety information to parents and families;
- welcome feedback from children and families; and
- provide an inclusive environment for children of all backgrounds and abilities.

The club respects the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and the diverse needs and circumstances of all children. Racism and discrimination will not be tolerated.

5. Safe behaviour and environments

People involved in junior activities must maintain appropriate boundaries and comply with the club's Child Safety Code of Conduct.

Junior activities will have appropriate supervision and, wherever practicable, interactions with children will occur in open and observable environments.

The club will consider child-safety risks associated with its courts, clubhouse, facilities, activities, online communication and social media.

Communication with junior players must be appropriate and transparent and, wherever practicable, include or be directed through a parent or guardian.

6. Screening and suitability

People undertaking roles that involve child-related work must hold a valid Working with Children Clearance or recognised exemption where required.

Being a Committee member or club volunteer does not, by itself, mean that a WWCC is required. Screening requirements are determined by the person's actual role and involvement with children.

The club recognises applicable legal exemptions, including those for people under 18, registered teachers and parents volunteering in an activity in which their child participates.

The club will maintain appropriate screening records and comply with applicable WWC Connect requirements.

Some Tennis Australia programs or roles may have additional screening or training requirements.

7. Reporting concerns

Anyone may raise a concern about the safety or wellbeing of a child. A person does not need proof before raising a genuine concern.

Concerns can be raised with James Morrish or Jannine Prasad (Child Safety Contacts), Scott Brady (MPIO), the Club President or another Committee member, Tennis Australia, or an appropriate external authority.

If a child is in immediate danger, call 000.

Serious allegations of child abuse must not be investigated by club volunteers.

The club's Child Safety Reporting & Response Procedure explains what to do when a concern is received.

8. Privacy and records

Child-safety information will be handled sensitively and shared only where reasonably necessary to protect a child, respond to a concern or meet reporting obligations.

Appropriate records will be securely maintained.

9. Review

The Committee will review the club's child-safety arrangements at least annually and following any significant child-safety incident or relevant change in requirements.

Related documents

- Child Safety Code of Conduct
- Child Safety Reporting & Response Procedure
- Child Safety Screening Register
- Tennis Australia Member Protection Policy
- Tennis Australia Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct
- Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour