

## **Tramore Tennis Club Child Safeguarding Statement April 2026**

- Name: Tramore Tennis Club
- Sport: Tennis
- Location: Tramore
  
- Activities: Tramore Tennis Club provides tennis activities and opportunities for children, young people, and adults through participation in community, club, regional, provincial events, and with our representative teams. Our volunteers and staff working with participants throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for all to participate in Tennis.

### **Section 2 - Principles to safeguard participants from harm.**

Tramore Tennis Club is committed to safeguarding all participants, and by working under the guidance of our NGB Safeguarding Policies our team members, both volunteers and employed, working with participants throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for participants to grow and develop within sport. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

- **Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in tennis.
- **Needs of the child** - All children's sport experiences should be guided by what is best for children. This means that adults should have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical, and personal needs of young people.
- **Integrity in relationships** - Adults interacting with children in tennis are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play** - All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasised, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive, and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Competition** – Competition/organised play is an essential element of tennis and should be encouraged in an age and level-appropriate manner. A child-centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place.

**Equality** - All children and adults should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background, or political persuasion.

### Section 3 - Risk Assessment

Tramore Tennis Club written Risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process documents require to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

<b>Risk Identified</b>	<b>Procedure in Place to Manage Risk</b>
<p>Club and Coaching Practice:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supervision Issues</li> <li>2. Unauthorised photography &amp; recording activities</li> <li>3. Behavioural Issues</li> </ol>	<p>Supervision guidance protocol and education</p> <p>Procedure/guidance in place to manage use of images</p> <p>Code of conduct mandatory signing at renewal of membership/Safeguarding 1/ Disciplinary and complaints procedure</p>
<p>Complaints and Discipline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Awareness of Disciplinary Policy and procedures is low</li> <li>2. Steps involved in Disciplinary Process</li> </ol>	<p>Greater communication required. Appearance on noticeboard needs to be made clearer.</p> <p>Members to be made more aware of the steps and ability to raise a complaint if required.</p>
<p>Reporting Procedures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lack of knowledge of organisational &amp; statutory reporting procedures</li> </ol>	<p>Reporting procedures/ guidance / Coach Education requirement / Crisis Management, Code of Conduct/Behaviour.</p>
<p>Use of Facilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unauthorised access to designated children's play &amp; practice areas &amp; to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.</li> <li>2. Unauthorised exit from children's areas</li> <li>3. Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas</li> </ol>	<p>Supervision policy / Coach Education/ Best Practice (in process)</p> <p>Parental supervision rota in place</p> <p>Photography guidance and use of devices in private zones.</p>

<p>4. Children sharing facilities with adults e.g., dressing room, showers etc</p>	<p>Supervision and Safeguarding</p>
<p>Recruitment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recruitment of inappropriate people</li> <li>2. Unqualified people in role</li> <li>3. No female CO assigned</li> </ol>	<p>Recruitment guidance and proper protocol in place (in hand)  Training offered and provided based on guidance  Actively look for a female CO representative from the club to volunteer (this is in process)</p>
<p>Communication:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors</li> <li>2. Photography and video</li> <li>3. Inappropriate use of social media &amp; communications by under 18’s</li> <li>4. Inappropriate use of social media &amp; communications with under 18’s</li> </ol>	<p>Child Safeguarding statement (Yes) and relevant training available</p> <p>Use of mobile and device usage to be prominent in the club for visitors and in membership renewal for existing members</p> <p>Best Practice and Code of Conduct</p> <p>Best Practice and Code of Conduct</p>
<p>General Risk of Harm:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. General Behavioural issues</li> <li>2. Bullying</li> <li>3. Vetting</li> <li>4. Issues surrounding online safety</li> </ol>	<p>Code of conduct more prevalent  Anti-bullying policy made available fot members  Recruitment guide/vetting policy</p> <p>Online safety guidance.</p>

**The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026**

## **Section 4 – Procedures**

Our Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (The Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla’s Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice) and Gateway Northern Ireland). In addition to our Risk Assessment process described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while availing of our activities.

Tramore Tennis Club has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers to work with children in our organised activities.
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for reporting child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.
- Procedures for managing trips away and hosting children.

The Relevant Person for Tramore Tennis Club is – Kieran O’Sullivan

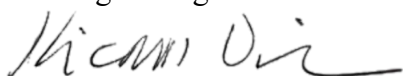
## **Section 5 – Implementation**

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Tramore Tennis Club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

Please note the following:

- All Team Members have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency, and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed in a prominent place by Tramore Tennis Club

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2028

Signed: 

Date: 02/05/2026