Lobethal Tennis Club Inc Child Safe Environment Policy

BY ALLOWING YOUR CHILD TO COMMENCE PLAY ON THE COURT, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE AND ACCEPT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OUTLINED IN THIS CODE OF CONDUCT. YOUR CHILD'S PARTICIPATION SIGNIFIES YOUR AGREEMENT TO ADHERE TO LOBETHAL TENNIS CLUB'S POLICIES.

Purpose

All sporting organisation's that provide services to children and young people in South Australia are required under the Children and Young People Safety Act 2017 to ensure that they implement compulsory child safe standards to protect children from harm.

The child safe environment policy sets out the Lobethal Tennis Club Inc approach for creating a child safe organization where children and young people are safe and feel safe and provides the policy framework for the club's approach to the Child Safe Standards.

Scope

All members, coaches and volunteers that are involved directly or indirectly with juniors (under 18 years of age) within and across a range of tennis activities are expected to comply. This policy will be shared with all club members, coaches, team managers, committee members, junior parents and junior players and external service suppliers to the club.

Commitment

Lobethal Tennis Club Inc has zero tolerance for child harm and abuse or neglect and holds child safety as a top priority.

Lobethal Tennis Club Inc is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe.

Every person involved within Lobethal Tennis Club Inc has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

Lobethal Tennis Club Inc in its planning, decision making and operations will:

- **Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety.**
- **Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives.**
- **Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children.**
- **Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount.**
- **Provide written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children through our Club Code of Conduct for a Child Safe Organisation**

- Engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development encouraging all Committee members, Team managers and Coaches to participate in online training in Child Protection.
- Ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or feeling unsafe and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues.
- Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities.
- Share information appropriately and lawfully with organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk.
- Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers.
- Ensure regular and consistent communication which models the values and principles articulated in the Child Safe Environment Policy.
- Review and update the policy in response to emerging thinking, evidence and practice about the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

Lobethal Tennis Club Inc is committed to ensure members, coaches, team managers, volunteers, parents and service providers are aware of the need to protect children from abuse, harm and neglect.

Aims and Procedures

Bullying will not be tolerated under any circumstances at Lobethal Tennis Club Inc. In such circumstances actions that will be taken include:

- Taking all signs of bullying seriously. Showing interest and sympathy with every allegation of bullying and providing support.
- Ensuring the victim is safe.
- Encourage members to speak out and tell someone – a parent, coach, team manager, or senior club member – if they are being bullied or if they witness bullying.
- Reassure the victim that we will help them and advise them that, in order to help them, we may need to speak with others about the problem.
- Speak with the bullies and victims separately.
- Keep records of what was said (ie what happened, who was involved, when the incident occurred and how the matter was handled).
- Encourage and support the bully/bullies to change their behaviour.
- Monitor the behaviour of the bully/bullies over a period of time.
- After a period of time follow up with the victim (and parents if appropriate) to find out if the bullying has stopped.
- If deemed necessary impose sanctions.
- Some forms of bullying constitute assault, harassment, or discrimination under Federal and State Legislation and are therefore illegal. In these circumstances the executive committee of the Lobethal Tennis Club Inc will seek advice from / report to police and or the Department of Human Services if we suspect the behaviour breaches legislation.

LOBETHAL TENNIS CLUB INCORPORATED

Child Safe Environment Policy
Code of Conduct for a Child Safe Organisation
Drop Off / Pick up Policy

Child Abuse

All Lobethal Tennis Club Inc members, coaches, team managers and committee members are required by law to report any suspicions that a child or young person is or may be at risk by

contacting the Department of Human Services through the child abuse report line which is 13 14 78

Working with Children Check

All Lobethal Tennis club committee members, coaches and team managers are required to have a current Working with Children Check through the Department of Human Services,

Complaints management and disciplinary action

All complaints should be sent via email to the President of the Lobethal Tennis Club at president@lobethaltennisclub.org to be reviewed by all committee members at the earliest possible convenience.

Review and Evaluation

This Child Safe Environment Policy will be reviewed annually and is current for season 2026/2027.

Please see below for Lobethal Tennis Club Code of Conduct for a Child Safe Organisation and Drop off/ Pick up Policy.

Lobethal Tennis Club Code of Conduct for a Child Safe Organisation

Caring for children and young people brings additional responsibilities for employees and volunteers of this organisation.

All employees and volunteers of this organisation are responsible for promoting the safety and well-being of children and young people by:

- **Adhering to this organisation's child safe policy at all times and taking all reasonable steps to ensure the safety and protection of children and young people.**
- **Treating everyone with respect and honesty (this includes staff, volunteers, students, children, young people and parents).**
- **Remembering to be a positive role model to children and young people in all conduct with them.**
- **Setting clear boundaries about appropriate behaviour between yourself and the children and young people in our organisation – boundaries help everyone to carry out their roles well.**
- **Listening and responding appropriately to the views and concerns of children and young people.**
- **Ensuring another adult is always present or in sight when conducting one to one coaching, instruction or other activities.**
- **Being alert to children and young people who are, or may be at risk, and reporting this to the Child Abuse Report Line (13 14 78).**
- **Responding quickly, fairly and transparently to any serious complaints made by a child, young person or their parent/guardian.**
- **Encouraging children and young people to 'have a say' on issues that are important to them.**
- **Providing feedback to both children and parents or guardians.**

Employees and volunteers must not:

- **Engage in rough physical games.**
- **Develop any 'special' relationships with children and young people that could be seen as favouritism such as the offering of gifts or special treatment.**
- **Do things of a personal nature that a child or young person can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes.**
- **Discriminate against any child or young person because of age, gender, cultural background, religion, vulnerability or sexuality.**

Lobethal Tennis Club Drop off / Pick up policy

The Lobethal Tennis club is committed to providing a safe environment, as our duty of care, for the participation of children and young people: part of this is ensuring that your child is not left alone before or after training, coaching or matches.

What we will do:

- **Make sure all families are aware of coaching and training times and match times and venues.**
- **During coaching sessions, children are supervised whilst on the court. It is a parents/care-givers responsibility to ensure their child is appropriately supervised when not participating in an active coaching session**
- **Request that you do not leave a child alone at the venue prior to training, coaching or matches.**
- **It is not the responsibility of the coach to supervise your child outside of coaching on the tennis court**
- ***At all matches, children are the responsibility of parents/caregivers. Children are not to be left on their own or unsupervised at any matches.**
- **It is expected that parents remain at a venue for the match and support their child. Should you not be able to do so, you will need to make private arrangements. It is not the Lobethal Tennis Club's responsibility to supervise your child at matches.**