

# Ratoath Tennis Club – Child Protection Policy Information Seminar

1. *Who are the club CCO's (Club Children's Officers)?*  
Lisa Halpenny (Female Officer) & Giuliano Davenport (Male Officer)
2. *How do we contact them?*  
Contact details are posted on the Junior Notice Board in the Club house.
3. *What does a club CCO do?*
  - (i) They ensure safeguarding policies and procedures are implemented and effective in all areas of the club.
  - (ii) They act in the best interests of young people and provide a safe environment for them to participate in club activities.
  - (iii) They are members of the Club committee and so ensure young people are represented at committee level.
  - (iv) Act as advisor for the club and report concerns of abuse to the appropriate authorities.
4. *Why are we here speaking with you today?*  
We want to inform members and parents of recent changes in the club which affect children's welfare and safety.

Two important pieces of legislation have been enacted concerning the welfare and protection of children. The first is the

- National Vetting Bureau Act which came into force on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2016.

The second piece of legislation is the

- Children First Act 2015 which is due to come into force this year.

Because of these pieces of legislation Leinster Tennis and Tennis Ireland have requested that all affiliated clubs should comply 100% with the legal requirements of the legislation.

The Club have to confirm in writing our 100% compliance with this legislation to Tennis Ireland by the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2016.

5. *What does this mean for the club?*

- (i) It means that Adult supervision must be provided (1 male, 1 female Adult) during all children's activities by the club, the committee, coaches, and members.
- (ii) It also means that Adults involved with children's activities on behalf of the club must be vetted.

6. *Who else has to be vetted?*

The club need a minimum of 5 adults to run Junior night successfully. If these adults are consistently helping out and volunteering with children's activities, they have to be vetted.

Occasional volunteering help from adults who are not vetted is allowed as long as there are other vetted adults present during the activities. Adults who are volunteering on an occasional basis have to be members of the club and as such have accepted the terms and conditions of the club charter.

7. *What is happening on Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup>?*

To comply with the requirements of Tennis Ireland and the legislation enacted recently, a special EGM meeting is being held at Ratoath Tennis Club at 8pm on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2016, so that club members can vote for the inclusion of our new Child Protection Policy into the club constitution, it's terms and conditions.