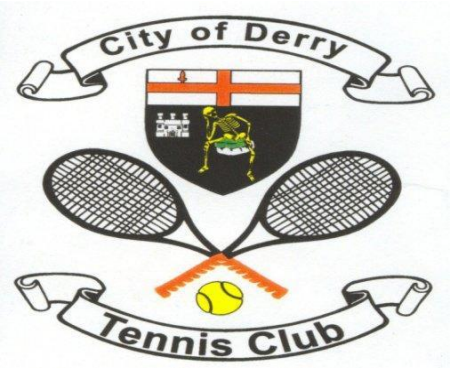


City of Derry Tennis Club

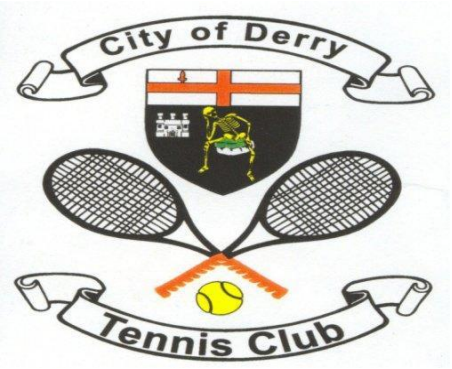
Tennis Ireland: Code of Conduct/Ethics for Tennis Leaders

Policy Date: March 2020

Review Date: March 2027

Reviewed and Approved By City of Derry Tennis Club Committee Members:

Date: 09/06/2025



Tennis Ireland: Code of Conduct/Ethics for Tennis Leaders

Tennis Leaders play a vital role in children's tennis. Tennis Ireland, the Branches, the Clubs and other Stakeholders, should ensure that the work of Leaders is guided by this safeguarding guidance and best practice whist also recognising that they are entitled to obtain a healthy sense of achievement and satisfaction through their involvement in children's tennis.

In order to act as a role model and to promote their safety and the safety of young people the Tennis Leader should:

Create a safe and enjoyable environment for children by:

- Ensure the safety of all children by careful supervision, by pre-planning and preparing of coaching sessions, using safe methods at all times.
- Always be positive during children's activities and promote the objectives of the club at all times.
- Making sure all levels of participation should be enjoyable and fun.
- Prioritising skill development and personal satisfaction over highly structured competition.
- Ensuring age and level of play appropriate and realistic challenges are set for all young participants.
- Avoiding favouritism – each child will need attention according to their tennis need.
- Praising and encouraging effort as well as results.
- Showing respect for all involved, children and adults.
- Actively encourage all children not to discriminate on the grounds of religious beliefs, race, gender or lack of ability.

Recognise and ensure the welfare of children by:

- Keeping attendance records and submit to the CODTC at the end of each coaching block.
- Not exposing a child to criticism, hostility or sarcasm.

- Never swearing at, ridiculing, shouting unnecessarily or arguing with a child.
- Being aware of the Tennis Ireland Long Term Player Development Pathway and a child's developmental needs at each stage of the programme.
- Working in an open environment.
- Ensuring there is adequate supervision.
- Implementing Tennis Ireland Policy on away trips.
- Involving and updating parents, especially if a problem has arisen.
- Respecting a child's sensitivity.
- Never using physical punishment or force.
- Not using verbal or physical punishments or exclusion for mistakes.
- Report accidents or incidents of alleged abuse to the designated person.
- All accidents and incidents are to be recorded on a CODTC incident/accidents log sheet.
- Ensure that minor first aid is administered as required in the presence of others.

Additional Information:

- Do not allow or engage in bullying behaviour, rough physical games, sexually provocative games, never allow or engage in inappropriate physical contact of any kind or make sexually suggestive comments about or to a child.
- Co-operate with the recommendations from medical and ancillary practitioners in the management of a child's medical or related problems. You may request a certificate of medical fitness to ensure safe continued participation.
- Avoid carrying out any medical testing or giving advice of a personal or medical nature if not qualified to do so or undertake any form of therapy (hypnosis etc.) in the organisation of children's activities. Any such activity, if qualified, must only be with parent/guardian consent and the understanding of the child.
- Keep any information in relation to a child/young person of a personal or medical nature strictly confidential unless the welfare of the child requires the passing on of this information on a need to know basis.
- Never exert undue influence over a participant in order to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- The acknowledgement of the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco is incompatible with a healthy approach to sporting activity and must be discouraged. Avoid the use of alcohol at all times whilst responsible for young people e.g. organised play, events and on trips with young people I have read the Tennis Ireland Code of Conduct above and agree to abide by the guidelines as set out in the code.

Name of Tennis Leader:

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Signature of Tennis Leader: **Date:**

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