

Diversity & Inclusion Policy

Including Code of Conduct & Reporting Procedure

Created: 13/08/2024

Review: 13/08/2026

Concern Reporting Procedure:

Anyone who has concerns that they or someone else is being discriminated against or has been a victim of discriminatory language or behaviour should:

Respond	Listen Carefully to what the person is telling you. Do not interrupt; keep questions to a minimum; do not promise to keep the information secret.	
Refer	Is someone in immediate danger? YES Call the police (999) Then	No Talk to the Club's Welfare Office in confidence, Nikki Condren, welfareofficer@bourneclub.co.uk, 07971 361 711. Talk to the LTA Safeguarding Team via https://safeguardingconcern.lta.org.uk . If the Safe guarding team are unavailable and you want advice before the next working day, call the NSPCC (0808 800 5000). If your concern is about an adult at risk ask them for details of your local authority Adult Social Care Ser vices. Hate Crime can alternatively be reported through True Vision at https://www.report-it.org.uk/
Record	Write an objective account of your concerns immediately using the Reporting a Concern Form found on https://www.lta.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding/. Send it to the Safeguarding Team within 48 hours of the concerns/disclosure (safeguarding@lta.org.uk) Handling a concern/disclosure can be emotionally difficult. If you would like to talk to someone after making a concern/disclosure, contact the LTA Safeguarding Team by email on safeguarding@lta.org.uk	

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(See appendix C for more details on what to do if a disclosure from a child or adult at risk is made to you)

Diversity and Inclusion at The Bourne Club

This policy sets out our commitment and includes our Safe and Inclusive Standards, Code of Conduct (Page 8) and Reporting Procedure (Page 2) and it supports our overall aims for diversity and inclusion that are to ensure that:

- All racket sports at The Bourne Club are diverse and inclusive
- Diversity and inclusion are embedded in our Club's culture and our behaviours
- We create a culture where inclusive leadership thrives
- We take a proactive approach using positive action to ensure that communities and individuals are valued and able to achieve their full potential

To achieve these aims we believe that everyone involved in tennis has a vital role to play in promoting diversity and inclusion and we ask everyone to become safe and inclusive tennis champions – proactively promoting safe and inclusive tennis and taking action against all forms of discrimination.

We are proud to have a Diversity and Inclusion policy that demonstrates our commitment to making racket sports diverse and inclusive. The commitment to Diversity and Inclusion is upheld by all (inclusive of but not limited to) – Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), Tennis Scotland, Tennis Wales, and the Tennis Foundation.

These commitments are fully supported by the Management Committee of The Bourne Club.

Together we can make a positive difference to people from different backgrounds to participate in racket sports at The Bourne Club.

Thank you!

Diversity and Inclusion Policy

1 . Policy Statement

This Diversion and Inclusion policy, Standards, Code of Conduct and Reporting Procedure is applicable to The Bourne Club and is based on similar policies of:

- The Lawn Tennis Association
- The Tennis Foundation

As a Club, we contribute actively to enable more people to play in Racket sports more often, in a manner that is safe, inclusive and fair. This applies regardless of a person's age, disability, gender reassignment status, sex, marital or civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity, race, sex, sexual orientation,

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religion, race or sexual orientation, socio-economic status or any other background.

We recognise that many concerns and/or disclosures may have both safeguarding and diversity and inclusion elements to them. This policy reflects this through its reporting procedures, which replicate the Safeguarding concern reporting procedures.

This policy strives to minimise risk and support our venue, programmes, events and individuals to deliver and experience a positive racket experience for everyone. The Reporting Procedure in page 2 outlines how to respond to a Safeguarding or discrimination concern/disclosure.

2. Use of Terminology

We have adopted the following definitions to explain our approach to diversity and inclusion in racket sports.

Discrimination – treating someone in a less favourable way and causing them harm, because of their age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief(s), sex or sexual orientation.

Diversity – acknowledging, celebrating and respecting the differences between groups of people and between individuals. We will work to ensure that people can be assured of an environment in which their rights, dignity and individual worth are respected, and in particular, that they are able to enjoy their sport without the threat of intimidation, victimisation, harassment or abuse.

Harassment – unwanted conduct, related to a relevant protected characteristic, which has the purpose or effect of violating an individual's dignity or creating intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment for that individual or creates an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment. The focus is on the perception of the complainant not the intent of the perpetrator. Employees can complain of behaviour they find offensive even if it's not directed at them.

Inclusion – ensuring that racket sports are equally accessible to any member of the community so they can be fully involved in whatever capacity they choose; and that they are supported to achieve their potential in any capacity e.g. player, employee, volunteer, coach or official. We will work to ensure that people have a genuine and equal opportunity to participate to the full extent of their own ambitions and abilities, that they feel respected and valued and are not singled out, with regard to their age, disability, gender reassignment status, sex, marital or civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity, race, sex, sexual orientation, religion, race or sexual orientation, socio-economic status or any other background.

Positive Action – The Bourne Club is committed to taking positive steps to counteract the effects of physical or cultural barriers – whether real or perceived – that restrict the opportunity for all sections of the community to participate

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equally and fully. We will ensure that we institute, support or contribute to appropriate measures or initiatives that enable access to racket sports and participation in associated activities by people from any group that is/are underrepresented in racket sports or has difficulty accessing them and that they can do so with dignity or without being singled out.

3. Scope

The Bourne Club has direct safe and inclusive responsibility for:

- Staff, consultants, coaches and officials they employ
- Volunteers, including directors and councillors they recruit
- The Bourne Club venue and grounds
- Events and programmes we run
- Ensuring all accreditation requirements are met by accredited coaches, officials and the Bourne Club

We recommend and support the development of good diversity and inclusion practise to:

- Accredited coaches, officials and The Bourne Club
- Players, parents and carers
- Volunteers recruited by other organisations
- Venues hired by or on our behalf
- Club Events

This policy in line with National Legislation (see appendix B for details of the relevant legislation) and applicable to The Bourne Club, specifically to every person and place that we have direct and safe and inclusive responsibility for

4 . Responsibility for implementation of the Diversity and Inclusion Policy

Diversity and inclusion is everyone's responsibility: not responding to discriminatory or unacceptable language and/or behaviour is not an option.

- The Bourne Club's Management Committee and Club Manager have overall accountability for this Policy and Reporting Procedure for being the strategic lead on diversity and inclusion and for ensuring compliance with the relevant legislation (see Appendix for details)
- The Club Manager, Marissa Ivey and Welfare Officer, Nikki Condren have overall responsibility for implementation of this policy
- The Club Manager, and Welfare Officer of the Club are responsible for updating this policy and reporting procedure in line with legislative and organisational developments; and develop a strategic and proactive approach to diversity and inclusion and respond to discrimination concerns
- The Bourne Club's Welfare Officer is Nikki Condren and she is responsible for supporting the Club to identify where diversity and inclusion support is required/needed; to implement safe and inclusive

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procedures; promote diversity and inclusion principles including the Safeguarding and Reporting procedures; promote diversity and inclusion principles, including the Safeguarding and Reporting Procedure, to all the programmes, events and individuals including players, parents and carers

- All staff, consultants, coaches, officials and volunteers involved in racket sports are responsible for raising diversity and inclusion concerns with the Club's Welfare Officer to start with; then the Safe and Inclusive Tennis Team, if applicable, as outlined in the Reporting Procedure
- Players, parents, carers and guardians are responsible for upholding the Code of Conduct and Reporting Procedure
- The Bourne Club is committed to:
 - Formally adopting this policy
 - Taking steps to ensure that our Committee, members, participants and volunteers behave in accordance with the policy, including where appropriate taking disciplinary action under the Club's constitution
 - Ensuring that access to our membership as well as access to participation is open and inclusive
 - Publishing accurate information about the location and accessibility of our facilities
 - Supporting measures and initiatives by the British Tennis institute or taking part in to advance the aims of this policy as part of our commitment to our LTA membership

Where there is a diversity and inclusion concern/disclosure:

- The individual who is told about, hears, or is made aware of the concern/disclosure is responsible for following the concern reporting procedure above

5. Breaches of the Diversion and Inclusion Policy, Standards, Code of Conduct and Reporting Procedure

Where there are concerns that diversity and inclusion good practise has not been followed, all staff are encouraged to follow the Club's whistleblowing policy; consultants, coaches, officials, volunteers and players are encouraged to report their concerns using the procedure set out on page 2 of this document.

If someone comes to you with a concern around discrimination, listen to their complaint, reassure them and advise them of the procedure as set out on page 2 of this policy.

Breaches of this policy and/or failure to comply with the outlined responsibilities may result in the following by the LTA and/or the Tennis Foundation.

- Venue Potential removal of LTA accreditation
- Staff disciplinary action leading to possible dismissal and legal action

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- Contracted consultants, officials and coaches termination of current and future roles within all four organisations and possible legal action
- Recruited volunteers including directors termination of current and future roles within all four organisations and possible legal action

Actions taken by staff, consultants, volunteers, officials, coaches, venue, clubs and/or events outside of the LTA and/or Tennis Foundation that are seen to contradict this policy may be considered a violation of this policy.

Where an appeal is lodged in response to a safeguarding decision made by the LTA Safeguarding Team and Safeguarding and Protection Committee and/or Licensing and Registration Committee, an independent appeal body such as Sports Resolutions may be used. Their decision is final.

6. Related Policies and Guidance

- Safeguarding Policy (including the whistleblowing policy)

Codes of Conduct

All members of staff, volunteers and members and parents/guardians of Junior Members agree to:

- Prioritise the well-being of all children and adults at risk at all times
- Treat all children and adults at risk fairly and with respect
- Be a positive role model. Act with integrity, even when no one is looking
- Help to create a safe and inclusive environment both on and off the court
- Not allow any rough or dangerous behaviour, bullying or the use of bad or inappropriate language
- Report all allegations of abuse or poor practise to the Club Welfare Officer
- Not use any sanctions that humiliate or harm a child or adult at risk
- Value and celebrate diversity and make all reasonable efforts to meet individual needs
- Keep clear boundaries between professional and personal life, including on social media
- Have the relevant consent from parents/carers, children and adults before taking or using photos and videos
- Refrain from making physical contact with children or adults unless it is necessary as part of an emergency or congratulatory (e.g. handshake/high five)
- Refrain from smoking and consuming alcohol during club activities or coaching sessions
- Ensure roles and responsibilities are clearly outlined and everyone has the required information and training
- Avoid being alone with a child or adult at risk unless there are exceptional circumstances
- Refrain from transporting children or adults at risk, unless this is required as part of a club activity (e.g. away match) and there is another adult in the vehicle

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- Not abuse, neglect, harm or discriminate against anyone; or act in a way that may be interpreted as such
- Not have a relationship with anyone under 18 for whom they are coaching or are responsible for
- Be acutely aware of the power that coaches and coaching assistants develop over players in the coaching relationship and avoid any intimacy (sexual or otherwise) with players

All Children agree to:

- Be friendly, supportive and welcoming to other children and adults
- Play fairly and honestly
- Respect club staff, volunteers and Officials and accept their decisions
- Behave, respect and listen to your coach
- Take care of your equipment and property
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, culture, religion or sexual identity
- Not use bad, inappropriate or racist language, including on social media
- Not bully, intimidate, or harass anyone, including on social media
- Not smoke, drink alcohol or drugs of any kind on Club premises or whilst representing the Club at competitions or events.
- Talk to the Club Welfare Officer about any concerns or worries they have about themselves or others

All Parents and Carers agree to:

- Positively reinforce your child and show an interest in their chosen sport(s)
- Use appropriate language at all times
- Be realistic and supportive
- Never ridicule or admonish a child for making a mistake or losing a match
- Treat all children, adults, volunteers, coaches, officials and members of staff with respect
- Behave responsibly at the Club; do not embarrass your child
- Accept any official's decision as final and do not enter the court or interfere with matches
- Encourage your child to play by the rules, and teach them they can only do their best
- Deliver and collect your child punctually from the Club
- Ensure your child has appropriate clothing for the weather conditions
- Ensure your child understands the code of conduct
- Adhere to the Club's Safeguarding Policy, Diversity & Inclusion Policy and Club Rules & Regulations
- Provide emergency contact details and any relevant information about your child including medical history

Appendix A

Glossary of Terms

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NEXT REVIEW: AUGUST 2026 (or earlier if there is a change in legislation)

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Age: This refers to a person belonging to a particular age group, which can mean people of the same age (e.g. 32-year-olds) or age ranges (e.g. 18-30-year-olds or people over 50)

Bisexual or Bi: Refers to a person who has an emotional and/or sexual orientation towards more than one gender

Bullying: Can involve any form of physical, emotional, sexual or discriminatory abuse. It can also include cyber-bullying – using social media or mobile phones to perpetrate bullying

Direct Discrimination: Treating someone less favourably that another person because of a protected characteristic

Disability: A person having a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities

Discrimination: Treating someone in a less favourable way and causing them harm, because of their age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation

Discrimination by Association: Discrimination against someone because they are associated with another person who possesses a protected characteristic

Discrimination by perception: Discrimination against someone because of the belief that someone possesses a protected characteristic

Equality: Treating everyone with fairness and respect and recognising and responding to the needs of individuals. Taking positive actions to address existing disadvantages and barriers affecting how people engage with and participate in racket sports

Ethnicity: The social group a person belongs to, and either identifies with or is identified with by others, as a result of a mix of cultural and other factors including language, diet, religion, ancestry and physical features traditionally associated with race. Ethnicity is essentially self-defined and may change over time

Gay: Refers to a man who has an emotional, romantic and/or sexual orientation towards men. Also, a generic term for lesbian and gay sexuality – some women define themselves as gay rather than lesbian.

Gender Identity: This is an individual's internal self-perception of their own gender. A person may identify as a man, a woman, as neither man nor woman (non-binary) or as androgyne/polygender.

Gender reassignment: The process of changing or transitioning from one gender to another

Harassment: Unwanted conduct relating to a relevant protected characteristic, which has the purpose or effect of violating an individual's dignity or creating THE BOURNE CLUB DIVERSITY & INCLUSION POLICY AND REPORTING PROCEDURE

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and intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment for that individual. The focus is on the perception of the complainant not the intent of the perpetrator. Employees can complain of behaviour they find offensive even if it's not directed at them

Hate Crime: Crime that is targeted at a person because of hostility or prejudice towards that person's disability, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, sexual orientation or transgender identity. This can be committed against a person or property

Homophobia: Fear, unreasonable anger, intolerance and/or hatred towards homosexuality, lesbian, gay and bi-sexual people whether that person in homosexual or not

Inclusive Leadership: Leaders who are aware of their own biases and preferences, actively seek out and consider different views and perspectives to inform better decision making. They see diverse talent as a source of competitive advantage and inspire diverse people to drive organisational and individual performance towards a shared vision

An Inclusive Leader: Is a role model exemplar of inclusive behaviour; listens to and seeks out the views of diverse people and takes account of their views, without bias, in the decisions they make; appreciates that a diverse group of people will generate more creative solutions to problems and encourages this; inspires people through a shared vision of future of success and motivates them to deliver it; leverages difference for high performance and provides responsive excellence to customers', clients' and service users' needs; provides positive feedback to boost peoples self-efficacy; puts effort into helping diverse people identify their talents and develop them for performance now and future advancement; communicates authentically and honestly in a way that inspires trust, loyalty and well-being

Inclusion: Recognising that people from different backgrounds may have different needs and expectations and may experience barriers in trying to access racket sports. An inclusive venue is one that takes steps to attract and engage with people from many different backgrounds and meet their needs so that everyone has a positive experience and the opportunity to reach their potential

Indirect Discrimination: A practise, policy or rule which applies to everyone in the same way, but that has a worse effect on some people that others.

LGBTIQA+: An acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, questioning/queer or asexual

Lesbian: A woman who has an emotional romantic and/or sexual orientation towards women

Monitoring Equality: Refers to data collection and analysis to check if people with protected characteristics are participating and being treated equally. For example; monitoring of the number of people with a disability who play racket sports at the Club

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Non-binary: An umbrella term for a person who does not identify as only male or only female, or who may identify as both

Positive action: A range of lawful actions that seek to overcome or minimise disadvantages (for example employment opportunities) that people who share a protected characteristic have experienced, or to meet their different needs

Pregnancy and Maternity: Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination if for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding

Questioning: Refers to the process of exploring your own sexual orientation and/or gender identity

Race: Refers to the protected characteristic of race. It refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins

Radicalisation, extremism and terrorist behaviour: Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and/or forms of extremism. Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. There is no single way to identify an individual who is likely to be susceptible to extremist ideology. The internet and the use of social media can be a major factor in the radicalisation of people

Reasonable Adjustment: What is considered reasonable will depend on all the circumstances of the case including the size of the organisation and its resources, what is practicable, the effectiveness of what is being proposed and the likely disruption that would be caused by taking the measure in question as well as the availability of financial assistance

Religion or belief: Religion has the meaning usually given to it but belief includes religious and/or philosophical beliefs including lack of belief (e.g. Atheism). Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition

Sex: Refers to the biological make up such as primary and secondary sexual characteristics, genes, and hormones. The legal sex if usually assigned at birth and has traditionally been understood as consisting of two mutually exclusive groups, namely men and women

Sexual orientation: A person's emotional, romantic and/or sexual attraction to another person

Trans: An umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth. Trans people

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may describe themselves using one or more of a wide variety of terms, including (but not limited to) transgender, cross dresser, non-binary, genderqueer (GQ)

Transphobia: The fear, unreasonable anger, dislike, intolerance and/or hatred towards trans people, whether that person has undergone gender reassignment or is perceived to have done that

Transsexual Person: Someone who has started the process of changing their gender identity, or is undergoing or has undergone gender reassignment

Unconscious bias or implicit bias: This refers to a bias that we are unaware of, and which happens outside of our control. It is a bias that happens automatically and is triggered by our brain making quick judgments and assessments of people and situations, influenced by our background, cultural environment and personal experiences

Victimisation: When someone is treated badly because they have made or supported a complaint or grievance

Appendix B

Legislation

The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society. It replaced previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act, making the law easier to understand and strengthening protection in some situations. It sets out the different ways in which it's unlawful to treat someone.

It is against the law to discriminate against anyone because of:

- Age
- Being or becoming a transsexual person
- Being married or in a civil partnership
- Being pregnant or on maternity leave
- Disability
- Race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin
- Religion, belief or lack of religion/belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

People are protected from discrimination:

- At work
- In education
- As a consumer
- When using public services
- When buying or renting property
- As a member or quest of a private member club or organisation

People are also protected from discrimination if:

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- They are associated with someone who has a protected characteristic e.g. a family member or friend
- They have complained about discrimination or supported someone else's claim

Discrimination can come in the following forms:

- Direct discrimination treating someone with a protected characteristic less favourably than others
- Indirect discrimination putting rules or arrangements in place that apply to everyone, but that put someone with a protected characteristic at an unfair advantage
- Harassment unwanted behaviour linked to a protected characteristic that violates someone's dignity or creates an offensive environment for them
- Victimisation treating someone unfairly because they've complained about discrimination or harassment