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| **CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES** | | | | | |
| **The potential risk of harm and abuse of children under each of the headings below is high.** | **High Medium or Low Risk** | **Extra information (where applicable)** | **Reference to Policy, Guidance and Procedure** | **Who is responsible at**  **Club level?** | **Further action required (please refer to relevant policy or procedure where applicable)** |
| **Club coaches and other personnel with no child safeguarding training** | **L** | **Number of coaches/ other personnel with no Child Safeguarding training: 0** | * Safeguarding Level 1 – Child Protection in Sport Awareness Workshop | * Children’s Officer (CO) * Coach * Club Executive | *Arrange training*  *Seek verification of attendance* |
| **Club coaches with no coaching qualification** | **L** | **Number of club coaches with no coaching qualification: 0** | * Coach education policy * Recruitment policy | * Club Executive * Coaching Officer | *Proof of qualification reviewed* |
| **Club Children’s Officer & Designated Liaison Person have attended relevant training** | **L** | Club Childrens Officer & DLP have both attended relevant training | * Safeguarding Level 2/3 | * Children’s Officer * DLP | *Proof of qualification confirmed* |
| **Relevant Club personnel not vetted/no background checks** | **H** | *Re-vetting is required every three years*  **Number of personnel vetted since May 2019\*: 30** | * Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section | * Club Committee * Children’s Officer | *Review ongoing* |
| **Poor Practice**  **Inadequate Supervision**  **Lack of supervision ratios** | **L** |  | * Code of Behaviour (Underage) Ref: Coaching section * Supervision policy/ratios * Coach education policy * Safeguarding Level 1 | * Club Executive | *Review ongoing* |
| **Lack of adherence with miscellaneous procedures e.g., use of mobiles, texting, transport rules, photography.** | **L** |  | * Code of Behaviour Ref: Social Media section * Safeguarding policy * Complaints & disciplinary policy | * Coach * Children’s Officer * Person in charge * Juvenile Committee | *Review ongoing* |
| **No guidance on travelling and away trips** | **L** |  | * Code of Behaviour Ref: Travelling and away trips sections | * Club Committee and event organisers | *Travelling and away trips sections* |

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| **COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE** | | | | | |
| **The potential risk of harm and abuse of children under each of the headings below is high.** | **High Medium or Low Risk** | **Extra information (where applicable)** | **Reference to Policy, Guidance and Procedure** | **Who is responsible at**  **Club level?** | **Further action required (please refer to relevant policy or procedure where applicable)** |
| **No awareness of complaints & disciplinary policy or procedures** | **M** | **Ensure policies are made available** | * Code of Behaviour Ref: Dealing with Breaches of Code Section | * Club Executive | *Immediate action required to highlight section*  *Ensure policies are made available* |
| **Complaints not being dealt with appropriately** | **M** | **Guidelines for Dealing with allegations & Concerns of Abuse Ref: Reporting Child Abuse Concerns Section** | * Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy | * Club Executive | *Ongoing review* |
| **Code of Behaviour Hearing Committee established** | **L** | **Code of Behaviour Hearings Committee has been established within the club** | * Code of Behaviour | * Club Executive | *Ensure names of CO, DLP & National MP are known* |

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| **REPORTING PROCEDURES** | | | | | |
| **The potential risk of harm and abuse of children under each of the headings below is high.** | **High Medium or Low Risk** | **Extra information (where applicable)** | **Reference to Policy, Guidance and Procedure** | **Who is responsible at**  **Club level?** | **Further action required (please refer to relevant policy or procedure where applicable)** |
| **No organisational reporting procedures**  **Lack of knowledge of statutory reporting procedure**  **Lack of knowledge of procedures**  **Failure to report concerns or allegations of harm or abuse** | **L** | **Ensure relevant policies are made available** | * Reporting procedures/policy * Coach education policy * Code of Behaviour Ref: Reporting Child Abuse Concerns Section | * National Safeguarding Committee * Mandated Parson * DLPs * Club Executive * Other relevant Club personnel | *Make policies and procedures available*  *Include in Safeguarding Training (L1)*  *Include in Coach Education Training* |
| **Awareness of Association’s National Mandated Person (NMP)**  **Awareness of others as per Schedule 2 of the Children First Act who are Mandated Person** | **L** | **Ensure identity of National MP is made known** | * Guidelines for Dealing with Allegations & Concerns of Abuse * Code of Behaviour Ref: Reporting Child Abuse Concerns Section | * Central Council * National Safeguarding Committee | *Publicise identity of Mandated Person* |
| **Club Designated Liaison Person (DLP) appointed** | **L** | **Club DLP has been appointed & has attended relevant training** | * Guidelines for Dealing with Allegations & Concerns of Abuse * Code of Behaviour | * Club Executive * County DLP * National Safeguarding Committee | *Appoint and train DLP*  *Publicise identity of DLP* |
| **Children’s Officer (with correct title) appointed and in membership of Club Executive Committee** | **L** | **Club CO has been appointed, has attended relevant training & attends Club Executive Committee meetings** | * Code of Behaviour | * Club Executive | *Appoint and train Children’s Officer*  *Publicise identity of DLP* |
| **Concerns of abuse or harm not reported** | **L** | **DLP & Club CO identities have been publicised within the club** | * Reporting procedures/policy * Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 | * Mandated Person * DLP at Club, County and National levels * Club Executive | *Include in Safeguarding Training (L1)*  *Publicise names of CCOs, DLPs, MP(s)*  *Publicise internal and external reporting procedures* |
| **Not clear who Young Person (YP) should talk to or report to at Club level** | **L** | **Young Persons have been made aware of DLP & Club CO** | * Code of Behaviour   Ref: Reporting Child Abuse Concerns | * Club Executive * Children’s Officer * Club DLP | *Make identity of CCO, DLP and national MP known*  *Communicate this at all levels*  *Include in Child Safeguarding Training)* |

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| **FACILITIES** | | | | | |
| **The potential risk of harm and abuse of children under each of the headings below is high.** | **High Medium or Low Risk** | **Extra information (where applicable)** | **Reference to Policy, Guidance and Procedure** | **Who is responsible at Club level?** | **Further action required (please refer to relevant policy or procedure where applicable)** |
| **Unauthorised access to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc. while in use by children.** | **L** | **Ensure relevant parties are aware of policies & procedures in place** | * Code of Behaviour Ref: Supervision policy | * Committees and Persons in charge * Club Executive * Children’s Officer | *Clarify responsibilities before session starts* |
| **Children sharing facilities with adults e.g., dressing room, showers, warm up areas etc.** | **L** | **Ensure policy is made known to personnel & adhered to** | * Code of Behaviour (Underage) | * Committees and Persons in charge * Club Executive * Children’s Officer | *Plan with facilities management to create a suitable child centred environment in shared facilities* |
| **Unauthorised photography, filming, or recording** | **M** | **Ensure policy is readily available and adhered to** | * Photography policy and use of devices in private zones | * Committees and Persons in charge | *Enforce policy in private changing and wet areas* |
| **Missing or found child on site** | **L** | **Ensure policy is followed** | * Code of Behaviour (Underage) | * Committees and Persons in charge | *Make personnel aware of procedures* |

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| **RECRUITMENT** | | | | | |
| **The potential risk of harm and abuse of children under each of the headings below is high.** | **High Medium or Low Risk** | **Extra information (where applicable)** | **Reference to Policy, Guidance and Procedure** | **Who is responsible at Club level?** | **Further action required (please refer to relevant policy or procedure where applicable)** |
| **Recruitment of inappropriate people** | **L** | **Ensure vetting is in place** | * Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section | * Club Committee * Children’s Officer * Coaching Officer | *Review on an ongoing basis* |
| **Relevant Club personnel not vetted/no background checks** | **L** | *Vetting is required every three years* | * Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section | * Club Committee * Children’s Officer | *Review on an ongoing basis* |
| **No role description or inadequate role descriptions** | **L** | **Personnel have been made aware of their roles & responsibilities** | * Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section | * Club Committee * Children’s Officer * Coaching Officer | *Check role description*  *Put supervision in place* |
| **Unqualified people in roles** | **L** | **All Coaches have completed a Foundation level course at minimum** | * Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section * Safeguarding 1 | * Club Committee * Children’s Officer * Coaching Officer | *Check qualification*  *Review on an ongoing basis* |
| **Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors** | **L** | **Ensure relevant policy is made known & adhered to** | * Child Safeguarding Statement * Training policy | * National Safeguarding Committee * Club Committee * DLPs * Children’s Officer | *Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement* |

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| **COMMUNICATIONS** | | | | | |
| **The potential risk of harm and abuse of children under each of the headings below is high.** | **High Medium or Low Risk** | **Extra information (where applicable)** | **Reference to Policy, Guidance and Procedure** | **Who is responsible at**  **Club level?** | **Further action required (please refer to relevant policy or procedure where applicable)** |
| **No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Behaviour to members or visitors** | **L** | *Safeguarding Statements must be publicly displayed by the club*  *Safeguarding Statement is publicly displayed and has been shared on Club Social Media channels* | * Child Safeguarding Statement * Code of Behaviour - distribute | * Club Committee * DLPs * Children’s Officer | *Display and Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement*  *Distribute Code or Sections as appropriate* |
| **Unauthorised photography, recording of activities etc.** | **L** | **Safeguarding statement is publicly displayed** | * Code of Behaviour - Ref: Photography, images section * Child Safeguarding Training L1 | * Club Executive * Children’s Officer * Team coaches | *Enforce policy*  *Review on an ongoing basis* |
| **Inappropriate photography & recording activities** | **L** | **Safeguarding Statement is publicly displayed** | * Code of Behaviour – Ref Photography, images section * Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 | * Committee and persons in charge * Children’s Officer * Team coaches | *Enforce policy*  *Review on an ongoing basis* |
| **Underage players inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones, and other devices while at Gaelic Games Associations’ activities** | **L** | **Safeguarding Statement is publicly displayed** | * Communication section in Code of Behaviour (Underage) * Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 | * Committee and persons in charge | *Enforce policy*  *Review on an ongoing basis* |
| **Inappropriate communications with underage players via social media, texting, digital device, or other manner** | **L** | **GAA Social Media Guidelines have been shared with club members** | * Communication section in Code of Behaviour (Underage) * Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 | * Club Executive * Children’s Officer * Team coaches | *Enforce policy*  *Review on an ongoing basis* |
| **Awareness of social media policy**  **Acceptable ICT usage policy**  **Streaming of juvenile games** | **L** | **GAA Social Media Guidelines have been shared with club members** | * [GAA Social Media Guidelines](https://www.gaa.ie/api/pdfs/image/upload/skjxfguu6n6lj6kx7fl2.pdf) | * Committee & persons in charge | *Enforce policy*  *Review on an ongoing basis*  *Ensure parental consent is obtained* |
| **Club Child Safeguarding Statement on display in the clubhouse and/or club grounds** | **L** | *Safeguarding Statements must be publicly displayed by the club* | * Code of Behaviour (Underage) | * Children’s Officer | *Attach copy of Safeguarding Statement at end of Risk Assessment* |
| **Association Anti Bullying statement on display** | **L** | **Anti Bullying statement on display** | * Code of Behaviour (Underage) | * Children’s Officer | *Publicly displayed Anti-Bullying statement* |

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| **GENERAL RISK OF HARM** | | | | | |
| **The potential risk of harm and abuse of children under each of the headings below is high.** | **High Medium or Low Risk** | **Extra information (where applicable)** | **Reference to Policy, Guidance and Procedure** | **Who is responsible at**  **Club level?** | **Further action required (please refer to relevant policy or procedure where applicable)** |
| **Harm not being recognised** | **L** | **Ensure relevant policy is made known & adhered to** | * Safeguarding policies * Child Safeguarding Training | * DLP * Children’s Officer * Mandated Person * Team coaches | *Emphasise and implement policy*  *Review on an ongoing basis* |
| **General behavioural issues** | **L** | **Ensure relevant policy is made known & adhered to** | * Code of Behaviour (Underage) | * Team coaches * Children’s Officers | *Take disciplinary action where necessary*  *Sign Code of Behaviour* |

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| **RISK ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT AUDIT** | | | | | |
| **The potential risk of harm and abuse of children under each of the headings below is high.** | **High Medium or Low Risk** | **Extra information (where applicable)** | **Reference to Policy, Guidance and Procedure** | **Who is responsible at**  **Club level?** | **Further action required (please refer to relevant policy or procedure where applicable)** |
| **How many new coaches or mentors for underage teams have commenced their roles since May 2019\*** | **L** | **Number of new coaches/mentors since 2019\*: 10** | * Coach Education Policy | * Coaching Officer | *Proof of qualification to be confirmed* |
| **Number of personnel who have attended safeguarding training since May 2019\*** | **L** | **Number of -**  Safeguarding 1 (face to face):  Safeguarding 1 (virtual):  Online refresher:  Safeguarding 2:  Safeguarding 3: | * Code of Behaviour (Underage) and legislation | * Children’s Officer (CO) * Coach * Club Executive | *Arrange training*  *Seek verification of attendance* |

**This Risk Assessment Procedure was discussed and adopted at the Executive Committee of SAMPLE (Club) on 14th May 2021 (date)**

**Club Chairperson: Club Children’s Officer:**

**Name: Chairperson Name: Club Childrens Officer**

**Position: Chairperson Position: Club Childrens Officer**

**Signed: *Chairperson* Signed: *Club Childrens Officer***

**Date: 14th May 2021 Date: 14th May 2021**

**PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT HERE:**

**Code of Behaviour (Underage) (QR code 1) Maintaining Good Practice and Behaviour (QR code 2)**

Recruitment Policy

Vetting Policy

Safeguarding Training Policy

**Guidance for Dealing with & Reporting Allegations or Concerns of Abuse (QR code 3)**



Please print in A3

Child Safeguarding Statement

**The Gaelic Athletic Associations (GAA, LGFA, Camogie, Handball and Rounders) in accordance with our Code of Behaviour (Underage), our policies, procedures and our legislative requirements have agreed this Child Safeguarding Statement, which is binding on all members and units of our Associations.**

The basic aims of the Gaelic Athletic Associations include fostering and developing our Gaelic Games and Irish cultural activities among young people and children. These games and related activities are organised and promoted by dedicated volunteers at Club,

County, Provincial and National levels with the cooperation and support of an equally

dedicated cohort of staff all of whom are committed to the safeguarding of children and young people in our Association as we seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop.

**PRINCIPLES TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN FROM HARM**

This statement recognises that in accordance with legislation and with the requirements of our Codes and Rules that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that all children and young people have a positive, developmental and enjoyable experience of Gaelic Games and when participating in our activities that they do so, as far as is practicable, in a safe and enjoyable environment.

**All policies and procedures listed above are available at** [***www.gaa.ie/the-gaa/child-welfare-and-protection***](http://www.gaa.ie/the-gaa/child-welfare-and-protection)

**IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW**

The Gaelic Athletic Associations recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. The Associations are committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children and young people safe from harm while availing of our service. This Statement adopted and endorsed by our Club Executive Committee will be reviewed by **31st of May 2023** or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Club Children’s Officer

**GAA/Rounders** Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichíl [*mandatedperson@gaa.ie*](mailto:mandatedperson@gaa.ie)**Camogie** Roberta Farrell [*mandatedperson@camogie.i*e](mailto:mandatedperson@camogie.ie) **Handball** John Kelly [*mandatedperson.handball@gaa.ie*](mailto:mandatedperson.handball@gaa.ie)

**LGFA** Paula Prunty [*mandatedperson@lgfa.ie*](mailto:mandatedperson@lgfa.ie)

**MANDATED PERSON PROCEDURES**

The Mandated Person, who has a legal obligation to report harm of children as per legislation and who has been employed for the purpose of performing the child welfare and protection functions within each of our Associations is:

**The following procedures contained in our risk assessment support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our services.**

* Procedure in respect of the management of • Procedure for the reporting of child allegations of abuse against any member, protection or welfare concerns to the non-member or staff/volunteer of a child Association, Tusla and or Gateway Team availing of our services as applicable
* Procedure for the safe recruitment and • Procedure for appointing a relevant person selection of workers and volunteers to work i.e. the Children’s Officer (National, Club with children and young people and County as appropriate) who is the
* Procedure for provision of and access relevant person for the purpose of this to Gaelic Games Child Safeguarding statement (see name below)

Training and information including the identification of the occurrence of harm

**PROCEDURES**

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been prepared in accordance with the legislative requirements contained in the *Children*

*First Act 2015, Children’s First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017), the Children (NI) Order 1995, Tusla’s Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice* and as required by our Association rules.

Each Club shall maintain a list of members who, if known, and in accordance with the Children First Act 2015 are specified as mandated persons, regardless of what role (if any), they hold in the Club.

**RISK IDENTIFIED**

**PROCEDURE/POLICIES IN PLACE**

Risk of harm including assault, ill treatment or neglect of a child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health, development or welfare or sexual abuse of a child

**1**

**2**

**3**

Risk of harm of abuse when hosting Code of Behaviour (Underage)-Hosting, an activity and or an away trip Away Trips & Transport

Risk of harm of online abuse through social media

Code of Behaviour (Underage) Association Social Media Policy

Bullying of a child

Anti-Bullying Statement, Guidelines & Training

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this statement we have completed a risk assessment of the potential for harm to children when they are participating in our games and attending our activities under the following headings: Club and Coaching Practices; Complaints & Discipline; Reporting Procedures; Facilities; Recruitment; Communications and General Risk of Harm.

To the right is a list of areas of risk identified and the list of procedures and policies that address these risks.



SAMPLE CLUB CHILDRENS OFFICER

**Glossary of Terms and Explanation of Headings and Terminology**

* **Potential risk of harm and abuse to children**

These include concerns, poor practices, failures to implement policy that are classified as areas of potential high risks of harm to children

* **Likelihood of it happening Rate as Low/Medium/High**

Committee should examine the likelihood of any of these risks occurring, how serious the consequences could be and rate them High, Medium, Low

* **Extra information (Where applicable)**

Please use this section to detail any important information in connection with the potential risk of harm & abuse to children being analysed

* **Reference to Policy, Guidance and Procedure**

These are the policies, codes, guidance we have in place that if implemented could alleviate the risks

* + Code of Behaviour (Underage) (Please note: The Code of Behaviour mentioned in the Risk Assessment & Child Safeguarding Statement refers to the current Code of Behaviour. A new code is expected to be released in June 2021 and can be viewed here when available: <https://www.gaa.ie/the-gaa/child-welfare-and-protection/code-of-behaviour> )
  + Recruitment Policy
  + Vetting Policy
  + Gaelic Games Child Safeguarding Training Policy
  + Guidance for Dealing & Reporting Allegations of Concerns of Abuse
  + GAA Social Media Guidelines
* **Who is responsible at Club/County/National?**

Who is responsible for ensuring that the relevant policy etc. is implemented?

* **Further action required**

Please record how the response may be implemented or if need be, how it can be monitored or reviewed and if target dates or completion dates are required to address any issues that arose as part of the Risk Assessment process

* **Temporary Safeguarding 1** – Please note the programme is temporary and certificates issued shall expire on 31 December 2021, unless renewed by the National Chid Safeguarding Committee.
* **2019\* -** References to 2019 are to be used as a comparative measure against the last Risk Assessment that was required by Gaelic Games Associations’
* **Coach**: includes coaches/managers/ trainers or others involved in the running of an underage team
* **Committee**: Can refer to Club Executive, Bord na nÓg or Coiste na nÓg, County Committee or Committee in charge
* **Code of Behaviour (Underage)**: Also referred to as ‘Code’ replaces the previous Code of Best Practice in Youth Sport from 1 March 2018
* **Guidelines for Dealing with Allegations & Concerns of Abuse**

The current guidance that directs Clubs and County Committees when dealing with allegations or concerns of abuse. Currently under review.

* **Child Safeguarding Training:** Safeguarding Level 1 – Child Protection in Sport Awareness Workshop, Safeguarding Level 2 – Children’s Officer Workshop and Safeguarding Level 3 – Designated Liaison Person Workshop
* **Child Safeguarding Statement**: This is an agreed Child Safeguarding Statement from all of the Gaelic Games Associations. Once agreed it can be amended and must be signed by the Children’s Officer. It **must** be put on display in a prominent position in your premises or where possible in the external facilities you may use in the promotion of our games and activities with children.
* **Children’s Officer:** This Officer, appointed by Club and County Committees has a wide range of responsibilities including ensuring that all aspects of the Code of Behaviour (Underage) are implemented, that those working with children are vetted and have attended child safeguarding training. The Children’s Officers shall be the Association’s relevant persons or first points of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement
* **Designated Liaison Person:** The DLP is responsible for ensuring that reporting procedures are followed and known at Club level
* **Mandated Person:** The mandated person who has a legal obligation to report harm of children as per legislation

**GAA:** Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichíl - [mandatedperson@gaa.ie](mailto:mandatedperson@gaa.ie).

**LGFA:** Paula Prunty - [mandatedperson@lgfa.ie](mailto:mandatedperson@lgfa.ie)

**Camogie:** Roberta Farrell - [mandatedperson@camogie.ie](mailto:mandatedperson@camogie.ie)

**Handball:** John Kelly – [mandatedperson.handball@gaa.ie](mailto:mandatedperson.handball@gaa.ie)

**Rounder**s: - Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichíl - [mandatedperson@gaa.ie](mailto:mandatedperson@gaa.ie).