

Walterstown Gaelic Football Club's Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment 2021 and Risk Assessment Management Audit

CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES					
The potential risk of harm and abuse of children.	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Safeguarding Level 1 – Child Protection in Sport Awareness Workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Children's Officer (CO) ○ Coach ○ Club Executive 	<i>Arrange training Seek verification of attendance</i>
Club coaches with no coaching qualification	L	Number of club coaches with no coaching qualification: 0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coach education policy ○ Recruitment policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Executive ○ Coaching Officer 	<i>Proof of qualification to be confirmed</i>
Club Children's Officer & Designated Liaison Person have attended relevant training	L	Number of personnel with no Child Safeguarding training: 0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Safeguarding Level 2/3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Children's Officer ○ DLP 	<i>Proof of qualification to be confirmed</i>
Relevant Club personnel not vetted/no background checks	L	<i>Re-vetting is required every three years</i> Number of personnel vetted since May 2019*: 98	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Committee ○ Children's Officer 	<i>Review ongoing</i>
Poor Practice Inadequate Supervision Lack of supervision ratios	M	Number of coaches present at trainings or matches should be adequate to ensure this would not occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Code of Behaviour (Underage) Ref: Coaching section ○ Supervision policy/ratios ○ Coach education policy ○ Safeguarding Level 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Executive 	<i>Review ongoing</i>
Lack of adherence with miscellaneous procedures e.g., use of mobiles, texting, transport rules, photography.	H		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Code of Behaviour Ref: Social Media section ○ Safeguarding policy ○ Complaints & disciplinary policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coach ○ Children's Officer ○ Person in charge 	<i>Review ongoing</i>

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				○ Juvenile Committee	
No guidance on travelling and away trips	M		○ Code of Behaviour Ref: Travelling and away trips sections	○ Club Committee and event organisers	<i>Travelling and away trips sections</i>

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	H		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Dealing with Breaches of Code Section 	○ Club Executive	<i>Immediate action required to highlight section</i>
Complaints not being dealt with appropriately	M		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy 	○ Club Executive	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Code of Behaviour Hearing Committee established	H		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour 	○ Club Executive	<i>Appointment of Committee</i>

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	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reporting procedures/policy ▪ Coach education policy ▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Reporting Child Abuse Concerns Section 	○ National Safeguarding Committee	<i>Make policies and procedures available Include in Safeguarding Training (L1)</i>

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Lack of knowledge of procedures Failure to report concerns or allegations of harm or abuse				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mandated Parson ○ DLPs ○ Club Executive ○ Other relevant Club personnel 	<i>Include in Coach Education Training</i>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guidelines for Dealing with Allegations & Concerns of Abuse ▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Reporting Child Abuse Concerns Section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Central Council ○ National Safeguarding Committee 	<i>Publicise identity of Mandated Person</i>
Club Designated Liaison Person (DLP) appointed	L	Club DLP has been appointed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guidelines for Dealing with Allegations & Concerns of Abuse ▪ Code of Behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Executive ○ County DLP ○ National Safeguarding Committee 	<i>Appoint and train DLP Publicise identity of DLP</i>
Children's Officer (with correct title) appointed and in membership of Club Executive Committee	L	Children's Officer has been appointed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Executive 	<i>Appoint and train Children's Officer Publicise identity of DLP</i>
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	M		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reporting procedures/policy ▪ Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mandated Person ○ DLP at Club, County and National levels ○ Club Executive 	<i>Include in Safeguarding Training (L1) Publicise names of CCOs, DLPs, MP(s) Publicise internal and external reporting procedures</i>
Not clear who Young Person (YP) should talk to or report to at Club level	M		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Reporting Child Abuse Concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Executive ○ Children's Officer ○ Club DLP 	<i>Make identity of CCO, DLP and national MP known Communicate this at all levels Include in Child Safeguarding Training)</i>

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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	Supervision in place at all times to eliminate this risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Supervision policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Committees and Persons in charge ○ Club Executive ○ Children's Officer 	<i>Clarify responsibilities before session starts.</i>
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g., dressing room, showers, warm up areas etc.	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour (Underage) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Committees and Persons in charge ○ Club Executive ○ Children's Officer 	<i>Plan with facilities management to create a suitable child centred environment in shared facilities. Child only bathrooms during sessions or matches..</i>
Unauthorised photography, filming, or recording	H		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Photography policy and use of devices in private zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Committees and Persons in charge 	<i>Enforce policy in private changing and wet areas</i>
Missing or found child on site	H		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour (Underage) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Committees and Persons in charge 	<i>Make personnel aware of procedures</i>

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	<i>Vetting is required every three years. All coaches have carried out Up To-Date vetting.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Committee ○ Children's Officer ○ Coaching Officer 	<i>Review on an ongoing basis</i>

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Relevant Club personnel not vetted/no background checks	L	<i>Vetting is required every three year.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Committee ○ Children's Officer 	<i>Review on an ongoing basis</i>
No role description or inadequate role descriptions	M		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Committee ○ Children's Officer ○ Coaching Officer 	<i>Check role description Put supervision in place</i>
Unqualified people in roles	M		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section ▪ Safeguarding 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Committee ○ Children's Officer ○ Coaching Officer 	<i>Check qualification Review on an ongoing basis</i>
Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors	M		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Child Safeguarding Statement ▪ Training policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ National Safeguarding Committee ○ Club Committee ○ DLPs ○ Children's Officer 	<i>Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement</i>

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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	<i>Safeguarding Statements must be publicly displayed by the club</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Child Safeguarding Statement ▪ Code of Behaviour - distribute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Committee ○ DLPs ○ Children's Officer 	<i>Display and Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement Distribute Code or Sections as appropriate</i>
Unauthorised photography, recording of activities etc.	M		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour - Ref: Photography, images section ▪ Child Safeguarding Training L1 ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Executive ○ Children's Officer ○ Team coaches 	<i>Enforce policy Review on an ongoing basis</i>
Inappropriate photography & recording activities	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour – Ref Photography, images section ▪ Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Committee and persons in charge ○ Children's Officer ○ Team coaches 	<i>Enforce policy Review on an ongoing basis</i>
Underage players inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones, and other devices while at Gaelic Games Associations' activities	M		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communication section in Code of Behaviour (Underage) ▪ Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Committee and persons in charge 	<i>Enforce policy Review on an ongoing basis</i>
Inappropriate communications with underage players via social media, texting, digital device, or other manner	L	Underage players are contacted through parents at all times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communication section in Code of Behaviour (Underage) ▪ Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Club Executive ○ Children's Officer ○ Team coaches 	<i>Enforce policy Review on an ongoing basis</i>
Awareness of social media policy Acceptable ICT usage policy Streaming of juvenile games	M		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GAA Social Media Guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Committee & persons in charge 	<i>Enforce policy Review on an ongoing basis Ensure parental consent is obtained</i>

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Club Child Safeguarding Statement on display in the clubhouse and/or club grounds	L	<i>Safeguarding Statements must be publicly displayed by the club</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour (Underage) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Children's Officer 	<i>Attach copy of Safeguarding Statement at end of Risk Assessment</i>
Association Anti Bullying statement on display	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour (Underage) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Children's Officer 	<i>Publicly displayed Anti-Bullying statement</i>

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	M		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding policies ▪ Child Safeguarding Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DLP ○ Children's Officer ○ Mandated Person ○ Team coaches 	<i>Emphasise and implement policy Review on an ongoing basis</i>
General behavioural issues	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Behaviour (Underage) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Team coaches ○ Children's Officers 	<i>Take disciplinary action where necessary Sign Code of Behaviour</i>

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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*:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coach Education Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coaching Officer 	<i>Proof of qualification to be confirmed</i>
Number of personnel who have attended safeguarding training since May 2019*	M	Number of - Safeguarding 1 (face to face): Safeguarding 1 (virtual): Online refresher: Safeguarding 2: Safeguarding 3:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Code of Behaviour (Underage) and legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Children's Officer (CO) ○ Coach ○ Club Executive 	<i>Arrange training Seek verification of attendance</i>

This Risk Assessment Procedure was discussed and adopted at the Executive Committee of _____ (Club) on _____ (date)

Club Chairperson:

Name: _____

Position: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Club Children's Officer:

Name: _____

Position: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

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PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT HERE:

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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 Child 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**

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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.

LGFA: Paula Prunty - mandatedperson@lgfa.ie

Camogie: Roberta Farrell - mandatedperson@camogie.ie

Handball: John Kelly – mandatedperson.handball@gaa.ie

Rounders: - Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichíl - mandatedperson@gaa.ie.