

# ***Gaelic Games Associations' Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment 2021 and Risk Assessment Management Audit***

## ***CLUBS***

The Gaelic Games Associations operate a joint Code of Behaviour (Underage), which is enshrined in our rules and the content of which reflects how we address our Association, legal and statutory safeguarding obligations.

One specific aspect of the Code of Behaviour (Underage) is that due to the fact that they are recognised as providing a 'relevant service for children', our Clubs & County Boards must undertake a risk assessment that considers the potential for harm that could come to these children while they are in our care. A risk assessment is an exercise we carry out where our Clubs, County Committees, and each of our Associations at national level examine all aspects of our service from a safeguarding perspective and establish whether there are any practices or features of the service, whether they be games, training, other activities for children, or the recruitment of coaches & mentors, that have the potential to put children at risk. Experience shows that discussions on the risk of harm to children in our care inevitably leads to a greater awareness of the Child Safeguarding measures we undertake in our day-to-day work in the Gaelic Games Associations. Each unit e.g., our Clubs, must now discuss and complete this procedure at Club Executive level and must record, sign and date when this discussion took place. Carrying out a risk assessment procedure shall now be required of all units, every two years.

Within a Gaelic Games Club, i.e., where one overall Committee operates then you are only obliged to complete one risk assessment procedure and develop one Child Safeguarding Statement for that Club. Where a Club has more than one Committee, e.g., a GAA Committee, and Camogie or LGFA Committee, then each Committee (section) must complete their own risk assessment and develop a Child Safeguarding Statement. Clubs may amend the text outlined in the template or may identify additional columns for inclusion under each heading that may be relevant to the risks identified. A glossary of terms and an explanation of each heading is contained at the end of this Risk Assessment document which may assist you when completing this requirement. This document also includes a Risk Assessment Management Audit section on page 9.

Clubs should discuss the 'Likelihood of it happening L/M/H' column and identify if the likelihood of a risk of harm happening if your Club fails to adequately address the risks identified as High, Medium, or Low. When reviewing this document, please note that the risk assessment procedure and the subsequent Gaelic Games Child Safeguarding Statement relates to the potential risk of abuse and harm to children when participating in our games and attending our events and not general health and safety risks which shall be covered under your separate H & S policy. Information supplied on the below Risk Assessment may be subject to quality assurance follow up by the Gaelic Games Associations or statutory authorities.

After the risk assessment has been completed, organisations are required to develop, and put on prominent display (on club social media, website, clubhouse etc.), a Child Safeguarding Statement that outlines the policies and procedures which are in place to manage and minimise the risks that have been identified. You may download the Gaelic Games Child Safeguarding Template Statement at <http://www.gaa.ie/the-gaa/child-welfare-and-protection/children-first>. **It is requested that clubs attach a copy of their updated Safeguarding Statement at the bottom of the Risk Assessment before submission.** When printing, please note the Statement must be printed on A3 size paper as content will not fit on A4.

Risk Assessments & Safeguarding Statements must be uploaded using an Official Gaelic Games email address (i.e. example@gaa.ie, example@lgfa.ie, example@camogie.ie) [here](#) by 5.00pm on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021. Questions or clarifications not included in the FAQ document may be submitted to [safeguardingriskassessment@gaa.ie](mailto:safeguardingriskassessment@gaa.ie).

***National Child Safeguarding Committee 2021***

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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:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Safeguarding Level 1 – Child Protection in Sport Awareness Workshop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Children’s Officer (CO)</li> <li>○ Coach</li> <li>○ Club Executive</li> </ul>	<i>Arrange training Seek verification of attendance</i>
Club coaches with no coaching qualification	M	Number of club coaches with no coaching qualification:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Coach education policy</li> <li>○ Recruitment policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Executive</li> <li>○ Coaching Officer</li> </ul>	<i>Proof of qualification to be confirmed</i>
Club Children’s Officer & Designated Liaison Person have attended relevant training	M	Will attend training when available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Safeguarding Level 2/3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Children’s Officer</li> <li>○ DLP</li> </ul>	<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*-55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Committee</li> <li>○ Children’s Officer</li> </ul>	<i>Review ongoing</i>
Poor Practice Inadequate Supervision Lack of supervision ratios	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Code of Behaviour (Underage) Ref: Coaching section</li> <li>○ Supervision policy/ratios</li> <li>○ Coach education policy</li> <li>○ Safeguarding Level 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Executive</li> </ul>	<i>Review ongoing</i>
Lack of adherence with miscellaneous procedures e.g., use of mobiles, texting, transport rules, photography.	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Code of Behaviour Ref: Social Media section</li> <li>○ Safeguarding policy</li> <li>○ Complaints &amp; disciplinary policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Coach</li> <li>○ Children’s Officer</li> <li>○ Person in charge</li> <li>○ Juvenile Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Review ongoing</i>

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No guidance on travelling and away trips	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Code of Behaviour Ref: Travelling and away trips sections</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Committee and event organisers</li> </ul>	<i>Travelling and away trips sections</i>
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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	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Dealing with Breaches of Code Section</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Executive</li> </ul>	<i>Immediate action required to highlight section</i>
Complaints not being dealt with appropriately	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Executive</li> </ul>	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Code of Behaviour Hearing Committee established	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Executive</li> </ul>	<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 Lack of knowledge of procedures Failure to report concerns or allegations of harm or abuse	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reporting procedures/policy</li> <li>▪ Coach education policy</li> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Reporting Child Abuse Concerns Section</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ National Safeguarding Committee</li> <li>○ Mandated Parson</li> <li>○ DLPs</li> <li>○ Club Executive</li> </ul>	<i>Make policies and procedures available</i> <i>Include in Safeguarding Training (L1)</i> <i>Include in Coach Education Training</i>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Other relevant Club personnel</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Awareness of Association's National Mandated Person (NMP)</b></p> <p><b>Awareness of others as per Schedule 2 of the Children First Act who are Mandated Person</b></p>	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Guidelines for Dealing with Allegations &amp; Concerns of Abuse</li> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Reporting Child Abuse Concerns Section</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Central Council</li> <li>○ National Safeguarding Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Publicise identity of Mandated Person</i>
<b>Club Designated Liaison Person (DLP) appointed</b>	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Guidelines for Dealing with Allegations &amp; Concerns of Abuse</li> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Executive</li> <li>○ County DLP</li> <li>○ National Safeguarding Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Appoint and train DLP</i> <i>Publicise identity of DLP</i>
<b>Children's Officer (with correct title) appointed and in membership of Club Executive Committee</b>	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Executive</li> </ul>	<i>Appoint and train Children's Officer</i> <i>Publicise identity of DLP</i>
<b>Concerns of abuse or harm not reported</b>	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reporting procedures/policy</li> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mandated Person</li> <li>○ DLP at Club, County and National levels</li> <li>○ Club Executive</li> </ul>	<i>Include in Safeguarding Training (L1)</i> <i>Publicise names of CCOs, DLPs, MP(s)</i> <i>Publicise internal and external reporting procedures</i>
<b>Not clear who Young Person (YP) should talk to or report to at Club level</b>	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Reporting Child Abuse Concerns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Executive</li> <li>○ Children's Officer</li> <li>○ Club DLP</li> </ul>	<i>Make identity of CCO, DLP and national MP known</i> <i>Communicate this at all levels</i> <i>Include in Child Safeguarding Training)</i>

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<b>FACILITIES</b>					
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Supervision policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Committees and Persons in charge</li> <li>○ Club Executive</li> <li>○ Children's Officer</li> </ul>	<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"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour (Underage)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Committees and Persons in charge</li> <li>○ Club Executive</li> <li>○ Children's Officer</li> </ul>	<i>Plan with facilities management to create a suitable child centred environment in shared facilities</i>
Unauthorised photography, filming, or recording	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Photography policy and use of devices in private zones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Committees and Persons in charge</li> </ul>	<i>Enforce policy in private changing and wet areas</i>
Missing or found child on site	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour (Underage)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Committees and Persons in charge</li> </ul>	<i>Make personnel aware of procedures</i>

<b>RECRUITMENT</b>					
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour Ref: Recruitment Section</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Committee</li> <li>○ Children's Officer</li> <li>○ Coaching Officer</li> </ul>	<i>Review on an ongoing basis</i>

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

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<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>					
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)
<b>No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Behaviour to members or visitors</b>	L	<i>Safeguarding Statements must be publicly displayed by the club</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Statement</li> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour - distribute</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Committee</li> <li>○ DLPs</li> <li>○ Children's Officer</li> </ul>	<i>Display and Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement Distribute Code or Sections as appropriate</i>
<b>Unauthorised photography, recording of activities etc.</b>	L	<b>Policies in place</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour - Ref: Photography, images section</li> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Training L1</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Executive</li> <li>○ Children's Officer</li> <li>○ Team coaches</li> </ul>	<i>Enforce policy Review on an ongoing basis</i>
<b>Inappropriate photography &amp; recording activities</b>	L	<b>Policies in place</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour – Ref Photography, images section</li> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Committee and persons in charge</li> <li>○ Children's Officer</li> <li>○ Team coaches</li> </ul>	<i>Enforce policy Review on an ongoing basis</i>
<b>Underage players inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones, and other devices while at Gaelic Games Associations' activities</b>	L	<b>Policies in place</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Communication section in Code of Behaviour (Underage)</li> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Committee and persons in charge</li> </ul>	<i>Enforce policy Review on an ongoing basis</i>
<b>Inappropriate communications with underage players via social media, texting, digital device, or other manner</b>	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Communication section in Code of Behaviour (Underage)</li> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Club Executive</li> <li>○ Children's Officer</li> <li>○ Team coaches</li> </ul>	<i>Enforce policy Review on an ongoing basis</i>

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Awareness of social media policy Acceptable ICT usage policy Streaming of juvenile games	L		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">GAA Social Media Guidelines</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Committee &amp; persons in charge</li> </ul>	<i>Enforce policy Review on an ongoing basis Ensure parental consent is obtained</i>
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"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour (Underage)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Children's Officer</li> </ul>	<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"> <li>▪ Code of Behaviour (Underage)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Children's Officer</li> </ul>	<i>Publicly displayed Anti-Bullying statement</i>

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



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<b>RISK ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT AUDIT</b>					
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*	Ten	Number of new coaches/mentors since 2019*:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coach Education Policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Coaching Officer</li> </ul>	<i>Proof of qualification to be confirmed</i>
Number of personnel who have attended safeguarding training since May 2019*	33	Number of - Safeguarding 1 (face to face): 28 Safeguarding 1 (virtual): Online refresher: 5 Safeguarding 2: Safeguarding 3:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Code of Behaviour (Underage) and legislation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Children's Officer (CO)</li> <li>○ Coach</li> <li>○ Club Executive</li> </ul>	<i>Arrange training Seek verification of attendance</i>

This Risk Assessment Procedure was discussed and adopted at the Executive Committee of   Faughs Celtic GAA   (Club) on \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Club Chairperson:

Name:   Ger Nagle  

Position:   Club Chairperson  

Signed:   Ger Nagle  

Date:   28/05/2021  

Club Children's Officer:

Name:   Paula Finnegan  

Position:   Children's Officer  

Signed:   Paula Finnegan  

Date:   28/05/2021

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PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT HERE:

# Gaelic Games Associations' Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment 2021 and Risk Assessment Management Audit

## CLUBS



# 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.

### 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.

### RISK IDENTIFIED

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

Risk of harm of abuse when hosting an activity and or an away trip

Risk of harm of online abuse through social media

Bullying of a child

### PROCEDURE/POLICIES IN PLACE

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)



Code of Behaviour (Underage)-Hosting, Away Trips & Transport

Code of Behaviour (Underage) Association Social Media Policy

Anti-Bullying Statement, Guidelines & Training

### 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.

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

### 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:

GAA/Rounders	Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichíl	<a href="mailto:mandatedperson@gaa.ie">mandatedperson@gaa.ie</a>
Camogie	Roberta Farrell	<a href="mailto:mandatedperson@camogie.ie">mandatedperson@camogie.ie</a>
Handball	John Kelly	<a href="mailto:mandatedperson.handball@gaa.ie">mandatedperson.handball@gaa.ie</a>
LGFA	Paula Prunty	<a href="mailto:mandatedperson@lgfa.ie">mandatedperson@lgfa.ie</a>

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.



Paula Finnegan 0877569773  
 Club Children's Officer

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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

## ***Gaelic Games Associations' Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment 2021 and Risk Assessment Management Audit***

### ***CLUBS***

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