



Clontarf Hockey Club

Child Safeguarding Statement

Section 1 – National Governing Body /club information

Hockey Ireland provides various sporting activities and opportunities for young people through participation in clubs, regional/provincial events and through our national teams.

Club/Province details:

- Club Name: **Clontarf Hockey Club**
- Sport: Field hockey
- Location: Mount Temple Comprehensive School, 128 Malahide Road, Dublin 3.
- Size (Number of members): 460 members (130 senior, 330 junior)
- Activity: Playing hockey

Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm

Clontarf Hockey Club is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of Hockey Ireland's Safeguarding Policies, our staff, both volunteers and employed, working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within sport. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

- **Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in sport.
- **Needs of the child** - All children's sport experiences should be guided by what is best for children. This means that adults should have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical and personal needs of young people.
- **Integrity in relationships** - Adults interacting with children in sport are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play** - All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasised, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Competition** - Competition is an essential element of sport and should be encouraged in an age-appropriate manner. A child-centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place.
- **Equality** - All children should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.

Section 3 - Risk Assessment

This Clontarf Hockey Club written Risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process documents require to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified (Section in CHC's Code of Ethics for Young People)
Club and Coaching Practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of coaching qualification. • Supervision issues. • Unauthorised photography & recording activities. • Behavioural Issues. • Lack of gender balance amongst coaches • No guidance for travelling & away trips • Lack of adherence with procedures in Safeguarding policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Recruitment & Education Policy (Section 7) • Supervision Policy (Section 9.2)/ Volunteer Recruitment & Education Policy (Section 7) • Filming & Photography Policy (Section 10) • Codes of Conduct (Section 4)/ Safeguarding 1 / Disciplinary, Complaints & Appeals of Code of Behaviour Breaches Policy (Section 6)/ Anti-Bullying Policy (Section 8) • Supervision Policy (Section 9.2) • Travel/Away trip policy (Section 9.2)/ Child Safeguarding Training • Safeguarding Policy (Section 3/ Section 9)/ Disciplinary, Complaints & Appeals of Code of Behaviour Breaches Policy (Section 6)
Complaints & Discipline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy. • Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent • Complaints not being dealt with seriously 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disciplinary, Complaints & Appeals of Code of Behaviour Breaches Policy (Section 6)/ Communications & Social Media Policy (Section 11) • Disciplinary, Complaints & Appeals of Code of Behaviour Breaches Policy (Section 6)/ Communications & Social Media Policy (Section 11) • Disciplinary, Complaints & Appeals of Code of Behaviour Breaches Policy (Section 6)
Reporting Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures • No DLP appointed. • Concerns of abuse or harm not reported. • Not clear who young person should talk to or report to. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to and Reporting Concerns about a Child's Welfare/ Protection (Section 14)/ Volunteer Recruitment & Education Policy (Section 7)/ Codes of Conduct (Section 4) • Responding to and Reporting Concerns about a Child's Welfare/ Protection (Sections 13, 14) • Responding to and Reporting Concerns about a Child's Welfare/ Protection (Sections 13, 14)/ Safeguarding Training – Level 1 • Post the names of CCO, DLP, DDLP (Section 16, Website)

Use of Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unauthorised access to designated children's play & practice areas & to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc..... • Unauthorised exit from children's areas. • Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas. • Missing or found child on site. • Children sharing facilities with adults e.g.dressing room, showers etc... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy (Section 9.2) / Volunteer Recruitment & Education Policy (Section 7) • Supervision Policy (Section 9.2) / Volunteer Recruitment & Education Policy (Section 7) • Filming & Photography Policy (Section 10) • Missing or Found Child Policy (Sections 9.4, 9.5) • Safeguarding Policy (Sections 3, 9)
Recruitment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of inappropriate people. • Lack of clarity on roles. • Unqualified or untrained people in role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Recruitment & Education Policy (Section 7) • Volunteer Recruitment & Education Policy (Section 7) • Volunteer Recruitment & Education Policy (Section 7)
Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors. • No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Conduct to members of visitors. • Unauthorised photography & recording of activities. • Inappropriate use of social media & communications by under 18's • Inappropriate use of social media & communications with under 18's. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Safeguarding Statement / Volunteer Recruitment & Education Policy (Section 7) • Child Safeguarding Statement (display) / Code of Conduct (distribute; Section 4). • Filming & Photography policy (Section 10) • Communications & Social Media Policy (Section 11)/ Code of conduct (Section 4) • Communications & Social Media Policy (Section 11)/ Code of conduct (Section 4)
General Risk of Harm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm not being recognised. • Harm caused by: Child to Child. Coach to Child. Volunteer to Child. Member to Child. Visitor to Child. • General behavioural issues. • Issues of Bullying. • Vetting of staff/volunteers. • Issues of Online Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding policy (Sections 3, 9)/ Child Safeguarding Training. • Safeguarding policy (Sections 3, 9)/ Child Safeguarding Training. • Code of Conduct (Section 4) • Anti-Bullying policy (Section 8) • Volunteer Recruitment & Education Policy (Section 7) • Communications & Social Media Policy (Section 11).

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 04/11/2024.



Section 4 – Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice). In addition to our Risk Assessment document described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

Clontarf Hockey Club has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities.
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

Please note that all procedures listed are available on request.

The Mandated/ Relevant person for Hockey Ireland is the National Children's Officer.

Section 5 – Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our Club/Province is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

Please note the following:

- That all staff have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed in a prominent place by the Club/Province.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 04/11/2026

Signed:  Date: 17 DEC 2024

Dan Ashton, Club President, On behalf of Clontarf Hockey Club

Name (Club Children's Officer): Nicola Taylor

Phone no: 0863480804

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact **Nicola Taylor (086 348 0804)**, Children's Club Officer, or **Robert Forrest (087 740 7072)**, Designated Liaison Person.