**SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT – 2024**

|  |
| --- |
| **Area Name** |
|  |

***Children First Act 2015*** requires that a Risk Assessment be carried out in relation to the potential for harm and abuse that could come to children while they are in our care and attending activities within our organisation.

**Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015** states that where a person proposes to operate as a provider of a relevant service, he or she shall, within 3 months from the date on which he or she commences as such a provider—

1. Undertake an assessment of any potential for harm to a child (whilst in our care)
2. Community Games affiliated Areas are required to display a Child Safeguarding Statement (Section 11 (1b))

**Please note that in accordance with the requirements of** **Section 11 (1) the risk assessment is the risk of abuse to a child and not general health and safety risk.**

| **Potential risk of harm to children** | | **Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H** | **Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document** | **Responsibility**  **Area/County/National** | **Further action required …** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES** | | | | | |
| **Lack of coaching qualification** | |  | * Coach education policy * Recruitment policy | NGB  Area | *Proof of qualification to be confirmed* |
| **Supervision issues** | |  | * Supervision policy * Coach education policy | NGB  Area | *Ongoing review* |
| **Unauthorised photography & recording activities** | |  | * Filming and Photography policy | NGB  Area | *Ongoing review* |
| **Behavioural Issues** | |  | * Code of Conduct * Safeguarding Level 1 (min) * Complaints & Disciplinary policy | Area | *Ongoing review* |
| **Lack of gender balance amongst coaches** | |  | * Coach education policy * Supervision policy | Area | *Ongoing review* |
| **No guidance for travelling and away trips** | |  | * Travel/Away trip policy within Child Protection Policy * Child Safeguarding Training | NGB  Area | *Ongoing review* |
| **Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy (i.e. mobile, photography, transport)** | |  | * Safeguarding policy * Complaints & disciplinary policy | Area | *Ongoing review* |
| **COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE** | | | | | |
| **Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy** | |  | * Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy * Communications procedure | Area | *Immediate action needed*  *Greater communication required* |
| **Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent**  **Reason: Covered above** | |  | * Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy * Communications procedure | Area | *Review the communication/responsibilities of the procedure/policy as required* |
| **Complaints not being dealt with seriously** | |  | * Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy | Area | *Ongoing review* |
| **REPORTING PROCEDURES** | | | | | |
| **Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures** | |  | * Reporting procedures/policy * Coach education policy * Code of Conduct /Behaviour | NGB  Mandated Person  DLP | *Make policies and procedures available*  *Include in Safeguarding Training (L1)*  *Include in Coach Education Training* |
| **No Mandated Person appointed** | | **H** | * Reporting procedures/policy | NGB | **This is the National Children’s Officer or CEO in absence of NCO** |
| **No DLP Appointed** | |  | * Reporting procedures/policy | NGB  Area | *DLP must attend Safeguarding 2*  *Publicise identity of DLP* |
| **Concerns of abuse or harm not reported** | |  | * Reporting procedures/policy * Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 | Mandated Person  DLP | *Attend Safeguarding Training*  *Publicise names of ACOs, DLPs, Mandated Person*  *Publicise internal and external reporting procedures* |
| **Not clear who young people should talk to or report to** | |  | * Post the names of Area COs, DLPs and Mandated Person | Area CO  DLP | *Communicate within the Area*  *Include in Safeguarding Training* |
| **FACILITIES** | | | | | |
| **Unauthorised access to designated children’s play & practice areas and to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.** | |  | * Supervision policy * Coach education | NGB  Area | *Clarify responsibilities before session starts* |
| **Unauthorised exit from children’s areas** | |  | * Supervision policy * Coach education | Area | *Clarify responsibilities before session starts* |
| **Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas** | |  | * Filming and Photography policy and use of devices in private zones | NGB  Area | *Enforce policy in private changing and wet areas* |
| **Missing or found child on site** | |  | * Missing Children Protocol | Area | *Refer to policy and inform Gardai* |
| **Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.** | |  | * Safeguarding policy * Supervision Policy | Area | *Plan with facilities management to create a suitable child centred environment in shared facilities* |
| **RECRUITMENT** | | | | | |
| **Recruitment of inappropriate people** | |  | * Recruitment policy | NGB  Area  Area CO  Appropriate personnel | *Ongoing review* |
| **Lack of clarity on roles** | |  | * Recruitment policy | Area | *Check job description*  *Put supervision in place* |
| **Unqualified or untrained people in role** | |  | * Recruitment policy | Area | *Check qualification*  *Ongoing review* |
| **COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA** | | | | | |
| **Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors** |  | | * Child Safeguarding Statement * Training policy | NGB  Area  DLP/Area CO | *Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement* |
| **No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Conduct to**  **members or visitors** |  | | * Child Safeguarding Statement – display * Code of Behaviour   - distribute | Area Executive  County Executive  DLP/ Areas CO | *Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement*  *Distribute Code* |
| **Unauthorised photography & recording of activities** |  | | * Filming and Photography Policy | Area | *Ongoing review* |
| **Inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18’s** |  | | * Social Media policy * Code of conduct | Area  Area CO | *Ongoing review* |
| **Inappropriate use of social media and communications with under 18’s** |  | | * Communications policy * Code of conduct | Area  Area CO | *Ongoing review* |
| **GENERAL RISK OF HARM** | | | | | |
| **Harm not being recognised** |  | | * Safeguarding policy * Child Safeguarding Training | Area | *Ongoing review* |
| **Harm caused by**   * **child to child** * **coach to child** * **volunteer to child** * **member to child** * **visitor to child** |  | | * Safeguarding policy * Child Safeguarding Training | NGB  Area  Area Children’s Officer | *Ongoing review* |
| **General behavioural issues** |  | | * Code of Conduct | Area  Area Children’s Officer | *Take disciplinary action where necessary*  *Sign code of conduct* |

**Explanation of terms used:**

* **Potential risk of harm to children** – these are identified risks of harm to children whilst accessing activities in the Area
* **Likelihood of harm happening** – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the Area measured by you as Low/Medium or High
* **Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document** – indication of the policy required to alleviate the risk
* **Responsibility** – provider should indicate where the responsibility for alleviating the risk lies
* **Further action…** - indicates further action that might be necessary to alleviate any risk ongoing
* **Safeguarding Policy** – Codes of Practice and Safeguarding Policies and Procedures <https://www.communitygames.ie/childrens-officer.html>
* **ACO:** Area Children’s Officer (also undertakes the role of Designated Liaison Person)
* **Relevant Person:** Person responsible for information about the Safeguarding Statement in the Area. This role is assigned to the Area Children’s Officer.
* **Mandated Person:** Mandated persons are people who have contact with children and/or families who, by virtue of their qualifications, training and experience, are in a key position to help protect children from harm. Further details on Mandated Persons can be sourced here <https://www.tusla.ie/children-first/mandated-persons/am-i-a-mandated-person/> or by contacting Community Games National Children’s Officer on [safeguarding@communitygames.ie](mailto:safeguarding@communitygames.ie)

This Risk Assessment document has been discussed and completed by *(insert Area Name)* on \_\_*\_\_ /\_\_\_\_ /2024*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Role: *(Chairperson) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*  Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ | Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Role: Area Children’s Officer  Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ |