

## SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT – 2022

Area Name
<b><i>County Wexford Community Games</i></b>

**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—

- (a) Undertake an assessment of any potential for harm to a child (whilst in our care)
- (b) 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 ...
<b>CLUB &amp; COACHING PRACTICES</b>				
Lack of coaching qualification	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coach education policy</li> <li>▪ Recruitment policy</li> </ul>	NGB Area	<i>Proof of qualification to be confirmed</i>
Supervision issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Supervision policy</li> <li>▪ Coach education policy</li> </ul>	NGB Area	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Unauthorised photography & recording activities	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Filming and Photography policy</li> </ul>	NGB Area	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Behavioural Issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	Area	<i>Ongoing review</i>

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 ...
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding Level 1 (min)</li> <li>Complaints &amp; Disciplinary policy</li> </ul>		
Lack of gender balance amongst coaches	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coach education policy</li> <li>Supervision policy</li> </ul>	Area	Ongoing review
No guidance for travelling and away trips	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travel/Away trip policy within Child Protection Policy</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Training</li> </ul>	NGB Area	Ongoing review
Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy (i.e. mobile, photography, transport)	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding policy</li> <li>Complaints &amp; disciplinary policy</li> </ul>	Area	Ongoing review
<b>COMPLAINTS &amp; DISCIPLINE</b>				
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy</li> <li>Communications procedure</li> </ul>	Area	Immediate action needed Greater communication required
Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent Reason: Covered above	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy</li> <li>Communications procedure</li> </ul>	Area	Review the communication/responsibilities of the procedure/policy as required
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy</li> </ul>	Area	Ongoing review

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 ...
<b>REPORTING PROCEDURES</b>				
Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting procedures/policy</li> <li>Coach education policy</li> <li>Code of Conduct /Behaviour</li> </ul>	NGB Mandated Person DLP	<i>Make policies and procedures available</i> <i>Include in Safeguarding Training (L1)</i> <i>Include in Coach Education Training</i>
No Mandated Person appointed	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting procedures/policy</li> </ul>	NGB	<b>This is the National Children's Officer or CEO in absence of NCO</b>
No DLP Appointed	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting procedures/policy</li> </ul>	NGB Area	<i>DLP must attend Safeguarding 2 MELANIE RYAN</i>
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting procedures/policy</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Training - Level 1</li> </ul>	Mandated Person DLP	<i>Attend Safeguarding Training</i> <i>Publicise names of ACOs, DLPs, Mandated Person</i> <i>Publicise internal and external reporting procedures</i>
Not clear who young people should talk to or report to	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post the names of Area COs, DLPs and Mandated Person</li> </ul>	Area CO DLP	<i>Communicate within the Area</i> <i>Include in Safeguarding Training</i>
<b>FACILITIES</b>				
Unauthorised access to designated children's play & practice areas and to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision policy</li> <li>Coach education</li> </ul>	NGB Area	<i>Clarify responsibilities before session starts</i>
Unauthorised exit from children's areas	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision policy</li> <li>Coach education</li> </ul>	Area	<i>Clarify responsibilities before session starts</i>

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 ...
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Filming and Photography policy and use of devices in private zones</li> </ul>	NGB Area	<i>Enforce policy in private changing and wet areas</i>
Missing or found child on site	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Missing Children Protocol</li> </ul>	Area	<i>Refer to policy and inform Gardai</i>
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding policy</li> <li>Supervision Policy</li> </ul>	Area	<i>Plan with facilities management to create a suitable child centred environment in shared facilities</i>
<b>RECRUITMENT</b>				
Recruitment of inappropriate people	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment policy</li> </ul>	NGB Area Area CO Appropriate personnel	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Lack of clarity on roles	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment policy</li> </ul>	Area	<i>Check job description Put supervision in place</i>
Unqualified or untrained people in role	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment policy</li> </ul>	Area	<i>Check qualification Ongoing review</i>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA</b>				
Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement</li> <li>Training policy</li> </ul>	NGB Area DLP/Area CO	<i>Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement</i>
No communication of	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Safeguarding</li> </ul>	Area Executive	<i>Communicate Child Safeguarding</i>

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 ...
Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Conduct to members or visitors		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statement – display</li> <li>Code of Behaviour - distribute</li> </ul>	County Executive DLP/ Areas CO	<i>Statement</i> <i>Distribute Code</i>
Unauthorised photography & recording of activities	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Filming and Photography Policy</li> </ul>	Area	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18's	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social Media policy</li> <li>Code of conduct</li> </ul>	Area Area CO	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Inappropriate use of social media and communications with under 18's	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications policy</li> <li>Code of conduct</li> </ul>	Area Area CO	<i>Ongoing review</i>
<b>GENERAL RISK OF HARM</b>				
Harm not being recognised	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding policy</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Training</li> </ul>	Area	<i>Ongoing review</i>
Harm caused by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- child to child</li> <li>- coach to child</li> <li>- volunteer to child</li> <li>- member to child</li> <li>- visitor to child</li> </ul>	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding policy</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Training</li> </ul>	NGB Area Area Children's Officer	<i>Ongoing review</i>
General behavioural issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	Area Area Children's Officer	<i>Take disciplinary action where necessary</i> <i>Sign code of conduct</i>



**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 *Melanie Ryan* on **03/03/2022**

Signed: _____ Name: _____ Role: ( <i>Chairperson</i> ) _____ Date: ____/____/____	Signed: _____ Name: _____ Role: Area Children’s Officer Date: ____/____/____
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This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 03/05/2024.

Signed: <u>Anne Cowman</u>	Signed: <u>Melanie Ryan</u>
Name: <u>ANNE COWMAN</u>	Name: <u>MELANIE RYAN</u>
Role: (Chairperson) _____	Role: <u>Area Children's Officer</u>
Date: <u>4/5/2022</u>	Date: <u>3/5/22</u>

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact the Area Children's Officer Melanie Ryan

Contact email: [wexfordco@communitygames.eu](mailto:wexfordco@communitygames.eu)

## Section 2 - Procedures to safeguard children from harm

Community Games is committed to safeguarding children and by working in accordance with our Child Safeguarding Policies, working with the young people throughout the area we aim 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 good understanding of the emotional, physical and personal needs of young people.
- Integrity in relationships - Adults working 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 emphasized, and organisations 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 appropriate manner. A child centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place.