



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael
CUMANN CHLUAIN DAIMH
Clonduff Gaelic Athletic Club
Affiliated since 1887



MAINTAINING GOOD PRACTICE AND BEHAVIOUR WITHIN CLONDUFF GAA CLUB

Like all Clubs that cater for underage players Clonduff GAA Club will do so with a child-centred approach and philosophy that recognises that maintaining best practice in the safeguarding of children and young people is paramount at all times.

Clubs must ensure that those chosen to work on their behalf with underage players and teams have been selected following thorough recruitment, selection and training procedures.

Coaches are required to

- o Undertake agreed vetting and background Police checks within the AccessNI Procedures
- o Attend relevant Gaelic Games child Safeguarding training and update every three years
- o Possess a coaching qualification relevant to their role as recognised by their Association

A number of non-coaching roles with children, carried out on behalf of the Club, may also require that some the above conditions are met, prior to commencing such roles.

While the purpose of any specified role and the frequency of activity by an individual in a Club may influence what recruitment criteria must be met, Clubs are advised that they should act on the side of caution and, where deemed appropriate, seek the vetting and child safeguarding training of individuals relevant to their roles. Such individuals could include bus drivers of underage club teams employed by the Club, parents who regularly drive children to games on behalf of the Club, physios etc.

All of the above are part of a range of support services that are available from Clubs for those seeking to work with children in our Associations.

Such requirements are elaborated upon in greater detail in Section 5 of the Code of Behaviour (Underage), The Recruitment and Selection of Coaches and other Volunteers.

Clonduff Club will ensure that those chosen to work with children and young people are at all times competent and confident in their roles and have received relevant child welfare and sports related training, as provided or instructed by our Associations to enable them fulfil such roles.

CLONDUFF CLUB WILL PROMOTE QUALITY PARTICIPATION BY:

- Adopting the Code of Behaviour as a basic level of agreement between the Club and their players, their coaches, parents/ guardians and supporters and others who work with young people.

- Leading by example and ensuring that a user-friendly and child centred approach is adopted in our work with young people and that equal opportunities are available for all to participate in our games and activities, regardless of an individual's ability.
- Developing effective procedures for responding to and recording all attendances, incidents, accidents and injuries.
- Ensuring that any concerns of abuse or alleged breaches of the Code of Behaviour (Underage) are recorded and acted upon, without delay, in accordance with Association procedures.
- Ensuring that all Club personnel are made aware as to the identity of their Club Children's Officer and their Designated Liaison Person and that these persons and their deputy officers are suitably trained for their roles.
- Availing of relevant information on health and wellbeing initiatives for young people and other club personnel including the Healthy Club Project.
- Distributing information on Anti-Bullying strategies in our work with young people and by adopting and implementing an Anti-Bullying Statement in the Club.

CLONDUFF CLUB WILL ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF THEIR MEMBERS BY:

- Agreeing the specific role of each and every coach or mentor or others working with young people.
- Adopting and implementing clearly defined recruitment and selection procedures when choosing coaches and other relevant personnel to work with children and young people.

CLONDUFF CLUB WILL ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF YOUNG PLAYERS BY:

- Ensuring that training schedules, playing rules, use of equipment and length of games are structured to facilitate greater participation by all young players, and are suitable to all age categories, and to the ability and maturity level of players.
- Not imposing responsibilities or roles on young people that may be inappropriate to their age.
- Respecting the rights, dignity and worth of all players and treating them equally regardless of their age, gender, ability, ethnic origin, cultural background or religion.
- Creating pathways for young people to participate in our games not just as players but by affording them other developmental opportunities including training to become referees, coaches etc.
- Ensuring that when the team may travel away and stay overnight that separate sleeping facilities are provided for all adults and for young people. Similarly, for mixed groups, separate sleeping quarters for males and females shall be required.
- When a group consists of both males and females, that an adequate adult to player ratio of male and female coaches is present, in accordance with Association agreed adult to child supervision ratios.

CLONDUFF CLUB WILL ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS BY:

- Encouraging parents/guardians to become members of their Club and to make themselves aware as to the running of juvenile games and activities and to the rules and codes that direct us in our work.
- Welcoming all parents/guardians to attend the games and training sessions that relate to their children. Information relating to such events should be made known to them at all times.
- Informing parents/guardians as to the identity of their Children's Officer. This person should be available to assist with any concerns or enquiries that parents/guardians may have regarding the

welfare and safety of children and young people in the Club and the implementation of the Code of Behaviour (Underage).

CLONDUFF CLUB WILL DEVELOP BEST PRACTICE IN ITS CLUB STRUCTURES AND ADMINISTRATION BY:

- Ensuring that the Juvenile Section of the Club is structured in accordance with good practice guidelines and that young people are afforded a role in decision making at an appropriate level.
- Ensuring all those eligible to participate in their age-appropriate team within the Club are provided with an opportunity to do so.
- Ensuring that all Club members are aware as to their responsibilities to all children and young people.
- Appointing a Children's Officer (and Deputy Children's Officer) whose role shall include the monitoring of the child centred ethos of the Club and compliance with any policies and guidelines as issued by the Club, by our Associations, or by statutory authorities and agencies in their jurisdiction.
- Appointing a Designated Liaison Person (and Deputy Designated Liaison Person) whose role shall include liaising with Statutory Authorities and assisting members in relation to the reporting of allegations, concerns and/or suspicions of child abuse.
- Ensuring that all players are covered by their relevant Injury Scheme and that all premises etc. in use by your Club and players are equally covered for property/liability insurance as deemed necessary.
- Adopting procedures that facilitate the privacy and safety of all young people in the Club and that all such procedures are maintained and regularly reviewed so as to ensure that young people feel safe and are safe in the Club.
- Seeking the agreement of parents/guardians when their sons/daughters under 18 years of age are invited into adult squads. Being aware that boundaries of behaviour in adult groups are normally different from the boundaries that apply to underage teams and squads.
- Appointing a Club Code of Behaviour (Underage) Hearings Committee, comprising of three people, as outlined in detail in the Code of Behaviour (Underage). This Committee shall be appointed and mandated by the Club Executive to hear any alleged breaches of the Code of Behaviour (Underage) and to reach a determination following their enquiries as to what sanction, if any, may apply in the event of a breach of the Code.
- Adopting, on an annual basis, the Club Child Safeguarding Statement, with amendments, if necessary, which must be made known to Club members and put on prominent display in the Club premises.
- Ensure that Club members are aware of our Child Safeguarding procedures including the policy documents Code of Behaviour (Underage) and the Guidance for Dealing with and Reporting Allegations or Concerns of Abuse and of our responsibilities to report concerns and allegations of abuse to the relevant statutory authorities and to the Association's DLP/Mandated Person, as required.

CLONDUFF SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN GAELIC GAMES ASSOCIATIONS' PROCEDURES

The Gaelic Athletic Association, Ladies Gaelic Football Association, the Camogie Association, GAA Handball Ireland and GAA Rounders have agreed a number of joint Child Safeguarding initiatives and policies so as to ensure, in so far as is practicably possible, the safety of children from the risk of harm while playing our games and participating in our activities.

The adoption of such agreed documents alone will not achieve this aim. However, the continuous commitment and implementation of such good practices by dedicated volunteers at Club, County, Provincial and National levels, with the cooperation and support of an equally dedicated cohort of staff, will assist us as we seek to create a safe environment for young people in which to grow and develop.

Equally so the role of parents in supporting our work and the vigilance of our members is vital as we jointly pursue this aim.

In particular, agreed procedures now require that all coaches of underage teams or teams that include any person under 18 years of age must fulfil the following criteria;

- Undertake agreed vetting and background Police checks within the jurisdiction(s) in which they operate.
- Attend relevant Gaelic Games child safeguarding training and update as required
- Possess a coaching qualification relevant to their role as recognised by their Association.

CLONDUFF GAA CLUB'S agreed policies and procedures are in accordance with current legislative requirements and include:

- The publication of a Child Safeguarding Statement which is binding on all members and units of our Associations.
- Carrying out a Risk Assessment procedure at Club, County and National levels, prior to publishing the Child Safeguarding Statement.
- A Code of Behaviour (Underage) which includes:
 - o Recruitment policy for those working with children
 - o Child safeguarding training requirements
 - o Anti-Bullying statement
 - o Social Media policy
 - o Guidance for Dealing and Reporting Allegations or Concerns of Abuse
 - o Appointing A Designated Liaison Person.
 - o Appointing Children's Officer who shall be the Club's relevant persons or first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement.

MANDATED PERSONS MAY BE CONTACTED AT

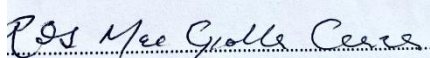
GAA/ROUNDERS – mandatedperson@gaa.ie

LGFA – mandatedperson@lgfa.ie

Camogie – mandatedperson@camogie.ie

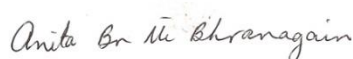
Handball – mandatedperson.handball@gaa.ie

Signed (Cathaoirleach)



Date: 31/01/2023

Signed (Rúnaí)



Date: 31/01/2023