

Irish Underwater Council

Child Protection Policy – Summary Document

IUC 228A

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Irish Underwater Council Children Policy

Irish Underwater Council children policy complies with statutory requirements of Sport Ireland and Sport Northern Ireland. Young members take part in snorkelling and diving and we need to ensure they are participating in a safe environment where risk is managed appropriately.

All the requirements apply across the island of Ireland.

- Clubs with children and/or vulnerable adults need to ensure the appointment of key child safeguarding officers including Children's Officer, Designated Liaison Person and a Mandated Person.
- Clubs need to prepare a Child Safeguarding Statement.
- Be aware of supervision requirements for under age members as noted in Training and Standards Manual as well as in Supervision requirements section in this policy.
- Adults working with children need to have completed vetting and attend child safeguarding training.
- Members of clubs and their parents as well as adults working with members under 18, need to read the code of conduct and sign the annual declaration. These need to be held by the club committee.

Club Children's Officer ensures the club operates within all Irish Underwater Council safeguarding policies and procedures. He/she ensures children the activities are conducted in a safe manner.

Club Designated Liaison Person (CDLP) is responsible for ensuring that reporting procedures within the Club are followed. They will liaise with the Irish Underwater Council's Mandated Person as required. The CDLP should record all concerns brought to their attention and the actions taken. The Club Chairperson automatically assumes the role of CDLP unless another person is chosen and ratified to undertake the role.

Club Mandated Person will report child protection concerns over a defined threshold to Tusla and to assist Tusla, if requested, in assessing a concern which has been the subject of a mandated report. The Mandated Person can be the Children's Officer, Designated Liaison Person or another person on the club committee.



Safeguarding Statement

Each club needs to provide a safety statement to show how they provide a positive environment for children and vulnerable adults and ensure, as far as practicable, that a child availing of our sports is safe from harm.

Child Safeguarding Training

All adults working with children

Children in Sport Awareness Workshop (Safeguarding 1) – Sports Ireland
Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport – Sport NI

Children's Officer and Designated Liaison Officer

Club Children's Officer Workshop (Safeguarding 2) – Sports Ireland
Designated Liaison Person Workshop (Safeguarding 3) – Sports Ireland
Designated Safeguarding Children Officer course – Sport NI

Sport Ireland workshops are available locally through the Local Sports Partnership network and Sport NI training is available through approved trainers.

Vetting

Clubs need to ensure instructors/adults are vetted before working with members under 18. Vetting documents are available on COMS for the National Vetting Bureau and AccessNI vetting.

If a person, who has not been vetted, continues to act in any of the above roles they will be breaking the law as may their Club, for offering or facilitating such a role.

Clubs have until 11 March 2018 to have policies and procedures in place. Sport Ireland will issue guidelines to support clubs to comply with the regulations.

Further information can be found on the Tusla website and the Child Protection in Sport Unit, or contact Fidelma Carroll the National Children Officer. Sport Ireland also have an app **Safe Sport** which has all-Ireland safeguarding information for clubs.

Links:

<http://www.sportireland.ie/Participation/>

http://www.sportireland.ie/Participation/Code_of_Ethics/Code-Of-Ethics-App/

<http://www.thecpsu.org.uk/>

<http://www.thecpsu.org.uk/training-events/>

<http://www.tusla.ie/children-first/organisations>

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