

CHILD SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT

CLUB / COUNTY / REGION NAME

This risk assessment considers the potential for harm to come to children whilst they are in your club’s care. This risk assessment precedes the Child Safeguarding Statement (Section 11 (1b) Children First Act 2015) which is developed following this risk assessment process. In accordance with the requirements of Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015 the risk is of abuse and harm, not general health and safety risk (covered under a separate H&S policy and risk assessment).

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 while availing of the service (in this section referred to as a “risk”).

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Code of Ethics required Policy or Guidance document	Responsibility for risk	Further action required ...
CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES				
Lack of coaching qualification	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coach education policy ▪ Recruitment policy 	Club/County/ Region	Proof of qualification to be confirmed
Supervision issues	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supervision policy ▪ Coach education policy 	Club/County/ Region	Ongoing review
Unauthorised photography & recording activities	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Photography and Use of Images policy 	Club/County/ Region	Ongoing review
Behavioural Issues – peer to peer and leader behaviour	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Conduct ▪ Child Safeguarding Training ▪ Complaints & Disciplinary policy 	Club/County/ Region	Ongoing review
Lack of gender balance amongst coaches	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supervision policy ▪ Child Safeguarding Training ▪ Recruitment policy 	Club/County/ Region	Ongoing review
No guidance for travelling and away trips	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Travel/Away trip policy ▪ Child Safeguarding Training 	Club/County/ Region	Ongoing review
Lack of adherence with procedures in Safeguarding Code (ratio’s, transport etc)	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding Code ▪ Complaints & disciplinary policy 	Club/County/ Region	Ongoing review

COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINARY				
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy and process	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complaints & Disciplinary process from Code of Ethics Communications procedure 	Club/County/ Region	Greater communication required
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Revise reporting process for child protection and welfare
REPORTING PROCEDURES				
Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy Coach education policy Code of Conduct /Behaviour 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Make policies, procedures available Include in Safeguarding Training (L1) Include in Coach Education Training
No Mandated Person appointed	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Publicise identity of Mandated Person and train in their role
No Club Children's Officer /Relevant Person appointed	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Provide training for CCO (Relevant persons)
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Include in Safeguarding Training (L1) Publicise names of CCOs & MP Publicise internal and external reporting procedures
Not clear who children should talk to or report concerns to	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post the names of CCOs, DLPs and MP 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Communicate in Club Include in Safeguarding Training (L1)
FACILITIES				
Unauthorised access to designated children's play & practice areas and to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision policy Coach education 	Club/County/ Region	Clarify roles and responsibilities prior to session starting
Unauthorised exit from children's areas	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision policy Coach education 	Club/County/ Region	Clarify responsibilities before session starts
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photography policy and use of devices in private zones 	Club/County/ Region	Enforce policy in private changing and wet areas
Missing or found child on site	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missing or found child policy 	Club/County/ Region	Refer to policy and inform Gardai
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing, showers	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding policy 	Club/County/ Region	Plan with facilities management to create a suitable child centred environment in shared facilities

RECRUITMENT				
Recruitment of inappropriate people	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe recruitment policy 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Ongoing review
Lack of clarity on roles	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe recruitment policy 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Check job description Put supervision in place
Unqualified or untrained people in role	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe recruitment policy 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Check qualification Ongoing review
COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA				
No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Behaviour to members or visitors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Statement – display Code of Behaviour - distribute 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement Distribute Code or Sections as appropriate
Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Statement Training policy 	Club/County/ Region	Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement
Unauthorised photography & recording of activities	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photography and Use of Images policy 	Club/County/ Region	Ongoing review
Inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18’s	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications policy Code of conduct 	Club/County/ Region	Ongoing review
Inappropriate use of social media and communications with under 18’s	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications policy Code of conduct 	Club/County/ Region	Ongoing review
GENERAL RISK OF HARM				
Harm not being recognised	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding policy Child Safeguarding Training 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Review reporting process Informal consultation with Tusla
Harm caused by - child to child - leader to child	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding policy Child Safeguarding Training 	Club/County/ Region Athletics Ireland	Child Protection reporting process to Tusla or the Gardai
General behavioural issues	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Conduct 	Club/County/ Region	Take disciplinary action where necessary sign code of conduct

This Child Protection Risk Assessment document has been discussed and reviewed by the following:

Signed:

Signed:

Print name:

Print name:

Role: Chairperson

Role: Children's Officer (Relevant Person)

Club/County/Region name:

Club/County/Region name:

Date:

Date:

Explanation of terms used above:

1. Potential risk of harm to children – these are identified risks of harm to children whilst accessing activities in the Club/County/Region/NGB
2. Likelihood of harm happening – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the Club/County/Region/NGB measured as Low/Medium or High
3. Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document – indication of the policy required to alleviate the risk contained in the Code of Ethics
4. Responsibility – provider should indicate where the responsibility for alleviating the risk lies
5. Further action - indicates further action that might be necessary to alleviate any risk ongoing
6. MP: Mandated Person appointed by Athletics Ireland
7. CCO: Club Children's Officer (Relevant Person)
8. Relevant Person: Person responsible for information about the Safeguarding Statement in the club, this role is assigned to the Club Children's Officer