

Children's policy

Wicklow Rowing Club has a thriving youth section beginning at under 10s12s 14s 16s 18s both male and female and adhere to all child safeguarding and Garda vetting policies we have a male and female child welfare officer.

The club appoints annually a youth Coach who will relay any youth members concerns or requests to the club committee

We also believe it is essential that Parents / Guardians are involved in the youth section and have a voice too.

In conjunction with our National governing body Rowing Ireland, Wicklow Rowing Club is committed to provide a safe environment for young people to train within our club.

Wicklow Rowing Club recognize that sport plays a vital role in the development of young people therefor it is our goal to provide a positive / safe environment where a child can develop and enhance skills with an holistic approach.

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (the Children First: National Guidance, and Tulsa's Child Safeguarding): A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice.

In addition to our Risk Assessment document, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

Wicklow Rowing Club has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- At our AGM appointments of a relevant persons is detailed and responsibilities outlined to appointed person.
- A Child protection officer is appointed to carry out assessment and procedures for any allegations of abuse or misconduct by members or volunteers against a child availing of our activities
- GARDA VETTING is carried out on members, coaches and mentors who work with children in our activities.

- Continuous training and upskilling of child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Policies and procedures on reporting's of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Display an up to date list of the persons in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Policies and procedures are kept available at the club and available for review on request.
- All membership applications need to be filled out and signed by a parent or guardian.
- Membership forms will provide authorized permission for the club to use photography of crews, advertising purpose or club information etc where the person considered a minor. Permission will also be sought for the administration of first Aid.
- Parents will be regularly updated about events training and club correspondence through a what's app messaging services. Parents along with the chairperson, secretary and child officer will be the only members with access to direct communication within this what's app messaging group.

We recognize that implementation is an ongoing process. Our club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities. Please note the following:

• That all members have been provided with a copy of this statement.
• This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency and members of the public on request.
• This statement will be displayed within the club.

Summary

In accordance to legislation all coaches and mentors will be garda vetted and an appointment of child protection will be made on a yearly basis at our club AGM. The child protection officer will have the responsibility to ensure child protection measures and protocols are followed and that all children are safe and cared for while training in Wicklow Rowing Club .

Risk assessments are carried out by the club safety officer and any concerns should be reported to them. The use of social media monitored for any breach of misconduct, no images with be shared of used by the club of any underage member unless parental consent is given.