

SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT

This risk assessment considers the potential for harm to come to children whilst they are in Canoeing Ireland’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 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	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Further action required ...
CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES				
Lack of coaching qualification	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recruitment policy ▪ Qualification requirements 	NGB Committee Club	We are proactively encouraging individuals to develop their qualifications
Supervision issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supervision policy ▪ Vetting requirement 	NGB Committee Club	Comprehensive safeguarding policy and training.
Unauthorised photography & recording activities	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Photography and Use of Images policy ▪ Use Consent form 	NGB Committee Club	Policy and procedure published. Best practice advice available for all volunteers.
Behavioural Issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Conduct ▪ Safeguarding Level 1 (min) ▪ Complaints & Disciplinary policy 	NGB Committee Club	Ensure the clubs are aware of the relevant policies and training and supported by the NGB
Lack of gender balance amongst coaches	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmes in place to support and encourage gender equity in all roles. 	NGB Committee Club	Specific programme support for female coaches through our Women in Sport initiatives.
No guidance for travelling and away trips	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Travel/Away trip policy ▪ Child Safeguarding Training 	NGB Club Committee	Review the current policy and ensure access to safeguarding training and garda vetting.

Lack of adherence with misc. procedures in Safeguarding policy (i.e., mobile, photography, transport)	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding policy Complaints & disciplinary policy 	NGB Club Committee	Safeguarding Training available on a rolling basis, support for clubs at local level. There may be an issue about developing a communication/social media policy.
COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE				
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy Communications procedure 	NGB Club Committee	Highlight the policy and support clubs in relation to specific issues
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy 	NGB Club Committee	Continue to ensure a multi-faceted approach to hearing complaints. Keep an up to date register of complaints.
REPORTING PROCEDURES				
Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy Code of Conduct /Behaviour 	NGB Club Committee MP DLP	Safeguarding 1 provided on a rolling basis internally, SG2 currently provided through Local Sports Partnerships
No Mandated Person appointed	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy 	NGB Club Committee	Canoeing Ireland CEO is the mandated person for the organisation this role is not required at local club level.
No DLP Appointed	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy 	NGB Club Committee	The role is supported by Safeguarding 1 training and the NCO, there is also external oversight via Sport Ireland
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting procedures/policy Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 	MP DLP	Ongoing support around all aspects of safeguarding at a national and local level proactively and as issues arise.
FACILITIES				
Unauthorised access to designated children’s play & practice areas and to	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision policy Coach education 	NGB	Support clubs at a local level to implement good practice.

changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.				
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photography policy and use of devices in private zones 	NGB	Support clubs to implement good practice at club level, through their safeguarding policy and as an when issues arise
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding policy 	NGB	Support clubs to implement good practice at club level, through their safeguarding policy and as an when issues arise
RECRUITMENT				
Recruitment of inappropriate people	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment policy Complaints and Disciplinary Policy Code of Conduct 	NGB Club CCO Appropriate personnel	Clearly communicate to potential employees the organisations expectations in relation to behaviour and advise them of the relevant policies. Ensure they attend the appropriate safeguarding training and are garda vetted.
Unqualified or untrained people in role	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment policy 	NGB	Ongoing Safeguarding provision internally, development of pathways to facilitate training and CPD opportunities
COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA				
No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Conduct to members or visitors	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Statement – display Code of Conduct - distribute 	NGB Club Committee DLP Children’s Officer	Display the Child safeguarding Statement, display the key elements of the code of conduct.
Unauthorised photography & recording of activities	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photography and Use of Images policy 	NGB Club Committee	Support clubs to implement good practice at club level, through their safeguarding policy and as an when issues arise
Inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18’s	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications policy Code of conduct 	NGB Club Committee	Support clubs by promoting good practice on all current and future communication apps.

GENERAL RISK OF HARM				
Harm not being recognised	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding policy ▪ Child Safeguarding Training 	NGB	This is actively being addresses through the Safeguarding training and safeguarding initiatives facilitated by the NGB
Harm caused by		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding policy ▪ Child Safeguarding Training 		This is actively being addresses through the Safeguarding training and safeguarding initiatives facilitated by the NGB
- child to child	M			
- coach to child	M			
- volunteer to child	M			
- member to child	M			
- visitor to child	L			
General behavioural issues	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Conduct ▪ Complaints and Disciplinary Policy 		Deal with at an informal level where possible supported by the code of conduct and complaints and disciplinary policy.

Explanation of terms used:

- **Potential risk of harm to children** – these are identified risks of harm to children whilst accessing activities in the Club/Region/Province/NGB.
- **Likelihood of harm happening** – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the club/region/NGB 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.

This Risk Assessment document has been discussed and completed by Canoeing Ireland on 20th February 2021

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Date: 7th Feb 2022

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Date: 7th Feb 2022