

# Code of Conduct

## INCLUSION POLICY STATEMENT

The Community Games is committed to promoting inclusion throughout the organisation for all members. The Community Games undertakes its responsibility to comply with equality legislation. As such it is committed to ensure that no person is treated less favourably than another on grounds of: gender, marital status, family status, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, ethnicity, or membership of the Traveller Community.

## INTRODUCTION

The welfare of the child is paramount to Community Games and the organisation is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of all its members. Every member of the organisation must show respect and understanding for members' rights, safety and welfare and, conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the organisation.

All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. Ireland has adopted and is committed to the European Code of Sports Ethics, which defines fair play as:

*"much more than playing within the rules. It incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always playing within the right spirit. Fair play is defined as a way of thinking, not just a way of behaving. It incorporates issues concerned with the elimination of cheating, gamesmanship, doping, violence (both physical and verbal), exploitation, unequal opportunities, excessive commercialism and corruption."*(European Sports Charter and Code of Ethics, Council of Europe, 1993).

## AIM OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

The aim of this code is to promote best practice by everyone involved in Community Games and to provide a safe, healthy and enjoyable environment. The guidance given in the Code of Conduct is based on the principles set out in Community Games policies and rules, and Sport Ireland and Sport Northern Ireland's 'Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport'

Areas are responsible for the recruitment and screening of volunteers and therefore must have suitable policies in place.

The Community Games supports initiatives by Sport Ireland and Sports Northern Ireland on matters relating to voluntary organisations, volunteerism and children's sport.

The following points, supported by other policies and documents listed above together form the Community Games Code of Conduct:

- For adults, their behaviour and actions at all times must be guided by what is best for the child, as outlined in the Community Games Child Protection Policy and other related policies
- Respect for people is fundamental in everything we stand for and do
- People must feel valued and enabled to contribute to the highest possible level
- Every child has the right to participate in a safe and enjoyable environment
- Competition is subsidiary to participation

**\*Members include: volunteers, parents, participants, leaders, coaches, co-ordinators, managers, national officials, match officials/judges/referees/umpires, committee members, directors and staff.**

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- All activities should be conducted in an environment of fair play, in line with *the European Sports Charter and Code of Ethics, Council of Europe, 1993*
- Those in a position of influence must act as positive role models who lead by example
- Bullying is not be tolerated
- Racism and discrimination is not be tolerated
- Best practise in Health and Safety must be of paramount importance during all events and activities
- The well-being of all members must be of paramount importance during all events and activities
- Leaders/ coaches should have the relevant knowledge and experience to work children and young people
- Members must adhere to a code of behaviour in relation to Child Protection and Welfare
- The highest standards of discipline must be maintained at all times
- Appropriate supervision must be provided in all circumstances
- Regarding transport, and overnight and away trips please refer to the Community Games Child Protection Policy
- Members must adhere to all Community Games Policies
- Members must keep abreast of policy and document update and changes to law reform
- A Volunteer may be suspended if he/she is under investigation by the statutory authorities.

### CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT

Please complete:

I \_\_\_\_\_ (print name) acknowledge that I have read the document and agree to adhere to the Community Games Code of Conduct.

Volunteer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

#### This Box to be completed for anyone Under 18 years

Under 18 members must also have parental consent.

I have read and accept the conditions and rules contained in the Community Games Code of Conduct and I consent to my child receiving any medical attention that maybe required.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_