



# Miltown Malbay Community Games

## Child Safeguarding Statement

### Section 1 – Miltown Malbay Community Games Information

Miltown Malbay Community Games is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all young people who participate in our activities. All young people within Community Games regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, family status, disability or membership of the Traveller community have the right to be protected, treated with respect, listened to, and have their views taken into consideration.

#### Miltown Malbay Community Games details:

- Name: **Miltown Malbay Community Games (MMCG)**
- Sport: **Multi sport Community Games**

### Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm

Miltown Malbay Community Games is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our Safeguarding Policies our staff, both volunteers and employed, working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within sport. The following set of principles are adhered to:

- **Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood is understood and valued by everyone involved in our sport.
- **Needs of the child** - All children's sport experiences is guided by what is best for children. This means that adults have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical and personal needs of young people.
- **Integrity in relationships** - Adults interacting with children in sport are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play** - All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasised, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Competition** - Competition is an essential element of sailing and is encouraged in an age appropriate manner. A child centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place.
- **Equality** - All children are valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.



## Definitions

- Safeguarding refers to the actions we take to ensure all children are safe from harm when involved in our area activities.
- Child protection is a set of activities that are required for specific children who are at risk of/or are suffering significant harm.
- Abuse refers to the acts of commission or omission that led/lead to a child experiencing harm.
- Harm refers to the negative impact or consequences upon the child of those actions.

Please see the full Child Protection Policy document for definitions of child abuse and for procedures and protocols, available at [www.communitygames.ie](http://www.communitygames.ie) or from your area secretary and/or Children's Officer.

## Guidelines for Parents

- Community Games encourages the involvement of parents and guardians at all levels; coaching, leadership, administration, support, or in any other capacity that will help us to ensure that our young people can participate in a fun and safe environment.
- Parental consent is required for children and young people to participate in Community Games activities.
- A parental consent form must be signed by the parent/guardian for trips away.
- A Code of Conduct must also be signed by the parent/ guardian and the participant.
- For certain medical conditions, allergies, etc (please speak to your area secretary or Children's Officer), a medical form must also be completed. This form is strictly confidential.
- All volunteers are Garda vetted. References from volunteers can also be requested.
- Volunteers are required to attend Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport training, as devised by the Sport Ireland.
- Parents/guardians will be informed immediately of any incident involving their child. Please ensure that your area secretary and/or Children's Officer has your most up to date contact details.
- As a parent you have a right to any information stored by Community Games about your child. Please speak to your area secretary or Children's Officer.
- All personal information is confidential and shared on a 'need to know' basis.

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- Child protection is a concern for all. The Community Games and its members have a duty of care to report any concerns of child abuse, allegations, or disclosures.
- As a parent/guardian you have a right to be informed of a report being made to the statutory services (Túsla, the Child and Family Agency and/or an Garda Síochána), unless this is not appropriate to the situation.
- If you wish to make a complaint please contact your Area Chairperson, details below, who will provide you with the information on this procedure.
- Please familiarise yourself and your child/children with this policy.



### Section 3 - Risk Assessment

**Miltown Malbay Community Games** written Risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process documents require to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
<p><b>Club and Coaching Practices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Lack of coaching qualification.</li> <li>— Supervision issues.</li> <li>— Unauthorised photography &amp; recording activities.</li> <li>— Behavioural Issues.</li> <li>— Lack of gender balance amongst coaches</li> <li>— No guidance for travelling &amp; away trips</li> <li>— Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Coach education policy/Recruitment policy.</li> <li>— Supervision policy/Coach education policy</li> <li>— Photography &amp; Use of Images policy</li> <li>— Code of Conduct / Safeguarding 1-2-3/ Complaints &amp; Disciplinary policy.</li> <li>— Diversity Policy / Supervision policy.</li> <li>— Travel/Away trip policy / Child Safeguarding Training.</li> <li>— Safeguarding Policy / Complaints &amp; disciplinary policy</li> </ul>
<p><b>Complaints &amp; Discipline</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Lack of awareness of a Complaints &amp; Disciplinary policy.</li> <li>— Difficulty in raising an issue by child &amp; or parent</li> <li>— Complaints not being dealt with seriously</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy / Communications procedure.</li> <li>— Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy / Communications procedure.</li> <li>— Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy.</li> </ul>



<p><b>Reporting Procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Lack of knowledge of organisational &amp; statutory reporting procedures</li> <li>— No DLP appointed.</li> <li>— Concerns of abuse or harm not reported.</li> <li>— Not clear who YP should talk to or report to.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Reporting procedures/policy / Coach Education policy / Code of Conduct/Behaviour.</li> <li>— Reporting procedures/policy.</li> <li>— Reporting procedures/policy / Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1-2-3</li> <li>— Poster with names of CCO, DLP and Mandated person. / Safeguarding Policy Document</li> </ul>
<p><b>Use of Facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Unauthorised access to designated children’s play &amp; practice areas &amp; to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.....</li> <li>— Unauthorised exit from children’s areas.</li> <li>— Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas.</li> <li>— Missing or found child on site.</li> <li>— Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Supervision policy / Coach Education.</li> <li>— Supervision policy / Coach Education.</li> <li>— Photography policy and use of devices in private zones.</li> <li>— Missing or found child policy.</li> <li>— Safeguarding policy.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recruitment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Recruitment of inappropriate people.</li> <li>— Lack of clarity on roles.</li> <li>— Unqualified or untrained people in role.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Recruitment policy.</li> <li>— Recruitment policy.</li> <li>— Recruitment policy.</li> </ul>



<p><b>Communications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors.</li> <li>— No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Behaviour to members of visitors.</li> <li>— Unauthorised photography &amp; recording of activities.</li> <li>— Inappropriate use of social media &amp; communications by under 18’s</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Child Safeguarding Statement / Training Policy.</li> <li>— Child Safeguarding Statement (display) / Code of Conduct / Coach Charter (distribute).</li> <li>— Photography &amp; Use of Images policy</li> <li>— Communications policy / Code of conduct</li> </ul>
<p><b>General Risk of Harm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Harm not being recognised.</li> <li>— Harm caused by: Child to Child. Coach to Child. Volunteer to Child. Member to Child. Visitor to Child.</li> <li>— General behavioural issues.</li> <li>— Issues of Bullying.</li> <li>— Vetting of staff/volunteers.</li> <li>— Issues of Online Safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Safeguarding policy / Child Safeguarding Training Plan</li> <li>— Safeguarding policy / Child Safeguarding Training Plan</li> <li>— Code of Conduct.</li> <li>— Anti-Bullying policy.</li> <li>— Recruitment policy / Vetting policy.</li> <li>— Social Media / Online Safety policy.</li> </ul>

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 22nd March 2023

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Paul Tarrant

Chairperson

**Miltown Malbay Community Games**



## **Section 4 – Procedures**

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015 The Children First: National Guidance, Sport Ireland's Safeguarding Guidance for Children & Young People in Sport and Irish Sailing's Safeguarding Policy Document.

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

**Community Games** has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities.
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons in the relevant service who are mandated persons.



*Please note that all procedures listed are available on request.*

The Mandated/Relevant Person for NGB is Donal Gillespie National Children's Officer. Contact: [safeguarding@communitygames.ie](mailto:safeguarding@communitygames.ie)

**Mandated Persons within the Area are:**

**IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS**

**Miltown Malbay Children's Officer:**

Name: Magda Pabian

Phone: 087-0902039

Email: [milton-malbay@communitygames.eu](mailto:milton-malbay@communitygames.eu)

**Area Designated Liaison Person:**

Name: Paul Tarrant

Phone: 087-2619891

Email: [milton-malbay@communitygames.eu](mailto:milton-malbay@communitygames.eu)

**Area Secretary:**

Name: Magdalena Pabian

Phone: 087-0902039

Email: [milton-malbay@communitygames.eu](mailto:milton-malbay@communitygames.eu)

**Area Chairperson:**

Name: Paul Tarrant

Phone: 087-2619891

Email: [milton-malbay@communitygames.eu](mailto:milton-malbay@communitygames.eu)

**County Children's Officer:**

Name: Niamh O'Connor

Phone: 087-9474650

Email: [clareco@communitygames.eu](mailto:clareco@communitygames.eu)



**National Children's Officer:**

Donal Gillespie

Phone: 085-2516244

[donal@communitygames.ie](mailto:donal@communitygames.ie)

To download the full version of the Child Protection Policy and other policies please see [www.communitygames.ie](http://www.communitygames.ie) or Phone: 00 353 90 6433388

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## **Section 5 – Implementation**

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. **Miltown Malbay Community Games** 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 Volunteers have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be on public display in Lahinch Leisure Centre

This Child Statement will be reviewed by 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 23/03/2023

Chairperson

Name: Paul Tarrant

Phone no: 087-2619891





National Children's Officer:

Donal Gillespie

Phone: 085-2516244

[donal@communitygames.ie](mailto:donal@communitygames.ie)

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