



Child Safeguarding Statement

Hockey Ireland (HI) provides various hockey activities and opportunities for young people through participation in hockey at club, at interprovincial competition and through to the national teams.

The Munster Branch of Hockey Ireland (MBHI) provides opportunities for young people and their clubs to participate in fun hockey blitzes for Primary School children where the main aim is participation for fun whilst learning new skills and making new friends. A more structured youth league and cup competition is provided for U13 and U15 Boys and U14 and U16 Girls which develops their skills further, instilling a love of hockey and in line with the Player Pathway.

Waterford Hockey Club (WHC) is affiliated to HI and MBHI and it provides young people with opportunities to learn the sport of hockey from beginner to youth players who play at a high competitive level. We nurture this love of hockey through our coaching and umpiring programmes. WHC provides this opportunity so that each player can reach a level of skill to the best of their ability.

WHC is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of Hockey Ireland Safeguarding Policies, our volunteers who work with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop.

All young players in WHC up to U18, as well as those for whom there is a special need who play in the Ladies and Men's leagues and cups are included in this Safeguarding Statement.

WHC's 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 required to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified are contained in the following categories: Club and Coaching Practices; Complaints & Discipline; Reporting Procedures; Use of Facilities; Recruitment; Communications; and General Risk of Harm.

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 10th March 2018.

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

WHC 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.

The Mandated Person for HI is;
Laura Cullen, National Children's Officer,
Email: nationalchildrensofficer@hockey.ie
Tel: (01) 7163262.

The Mandated Person for MBHI and WHC is;
Shirley Moore, Munster Branch Children's Officer,
Email: childrensofficer@munsterhockey.com/shirleymooreoceanview@gmail.com
Mob: (087) 2307450.

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. WHC is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children and young people safe from harm while availing of our activities.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in February 2020.

Signed:  Date: 11th March 2018.
Sally Kavanagh, President. Phone No: (086) 8583603.
President Waterford Hockey Club.

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact Shirley Moore.