

Tralee Harriers Athletic Club Child Protection Policy Statement

Tralee Harriers Athletic Club is committed to ensuring that all young people who play sport have a safe and positive experience. The club is committed to developing and implementing policies and procedures to ensure that everyone knows and accepts their responsibility in relation to a duty of care for young people.

Tralee Harriers Athletic Club recognises that it is not the responsibility of those individuals working within the club to determine if abuse has taken place, but it is their responsibility to act upon and report any concerns. If any person within the club has a doubt to this policy's relevance to their role and duties, then please contact the clubs Child Welfare Officer.

The club and those involved with the club will abide by the following principles and statements:

- All young people within Tralee Harriers, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability, or disability, have the right to be protected.
- All young people participating in sport have a right to do so in a safe environment.
- All adults involved with the club will provide a safe, positive, and fun sporting experience for young people.
- All volunteers, coaches and officials will understand and be supported in their role and responsibility regarding the duty of care for young people.
- All suspicions and allegations will be taken seriously, managed, and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.
- The club will assist coaches, volunteers, and officials to remain up to date with the latest safeguarding and child protection issues.
- The club appoint Child Welfare Officers whose role is to be responsible for issues concerning child welfare at the club and these are reviewed on an annual basis.

Parents Code of Conduct Tralee Harriers Athletic Club

Parents should:

- Encourage your child to learn the rules and play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Publicly accept officials' judgments.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Encourage and guide performers to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.

Children and Young Athletes Code of Conduct Tralee Harriers A.C.

Children have a great deal to gain from athletics in terms of their personal development and enjoyment. The promotion of good practice in athletics will depend on the co-operation of all involved, including child members of clubs. Children must be encouraged to realise that they also have responsibilities to treat other children and leaders with fairness and respect.

Children in sport are entitled to:

- Be Listened to
- Be believed
- Be safe and feel safe
- Participate in activities on an equal basis, appropriate to their ability and stage of development
- Be treated with dignity, sensitivity and respect
- Be happy, have fun and enjoy athletics
- Experience competition at a level at which they feel comfortable and the desire to win as a positive and healthy outcome for striving for best performance
- Comment and make suggestions in a constructive manner
- Make a complaint in an appropriate way and have it dealt with through an effective complaint's procedure
- Be afforded appropriate confidentiality
- Be represented at meetings within their club
- Have a voice in the running of their club
- Approach the Children's Officer/Designated Person with any questions or concerns they may have

Children should undertake to:

- Play fairly do their best and have fun
- Shake hands before and after the event whoever wins and mean it
- Respect officials and accept their decisions with grace not a grudge
- Respect fellow club members: give them full support both when they do well and when things go wrong
- Respect opponents, they are not enemies, they are partners in a sporting event
- Give opponents a hand if they are injured or have a problem with equipment
- Accept apologies from opponents when they are offered
- Exercise self-control and tolerance for others, even if others do not
- Be modest in victory and be gracious in defeat
- Show appropriate loyalty to athletics and all its participants
- Make high standards of fair play the example others want to follow

Children should not:

- Cheat
- Use violence
- Shout at, or argue with, officials, club mates or opponents
- Take banned substances to improve performance
- Bully or use bullying tactics to isolate another child
- Use unfair or bullying tactics to gain advantage
- Harm club mates, opponents, or their property
- Tell lies about adults or other children
- Spread rumours
- Keep secrets about any person who may have caused them harm

Coaches, Officials and Volunteers Code of Conduct Tralee Harriers A.C.

The essence of good ethical conduct and practice is summarised below.

All coaches, officials and volunteers at the club should:

- Consider the wellbeing and safety of participants before the development of performance
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with participants based on mutual trust and respect
- Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability, and the experience of those taking part
- Promote the positive aspects of the sport
- Display consistently high standards of behaviour
- Follow all guidelines laid down by the national governing body and the club
- Hold appropriate qualifications and insurance cover
- Never exert undue influence over participants to gain personal benefit or reward
- Never condone rule violations, rough play, or the use of prohibited substances
- Encourage participants to value their performances and not just results
- Encourage and guide participants to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour
- Never use foul or inappropriate language
- Never engage in any form of sexual relations with anyone under the age of 18 or vulnerable adults
- Read, understand, and put into practise all club policies and procedures