

Greenhills Boys Football Club



Child Safeguarding Statement

Greenhills Boys is committed to safeguarding children and, by working under the guidance of a Child Safeguarding Policy, the Club volunteers seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop.

The Club has undertaken a written Safeguarding Risk Assessment which indicates areas of potential risk of harm and outlines the required policy and guidance required to alleviate these risks.

Risks identified are categorised under the headings: Club and Coaching Practices; Complaints & Discipline; Use of Facilities; Club Communications & Social Media; Recruitment, Reporting Procedures and General Risk of Harm.

The Safeguarding Risk Assessment was undertaken on 20/03/2018

This Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015 and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice.

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

Greenhills Boys has the following procedures in place as part of its Child Safeguarding Policy:

- Procedures for the safe recruitment of volunteers to work with children in the Club;
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by Club volunteers against a child availing of Club activities;
- Procedures for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.

The Club recognises that implementation of these procedures is an ongoing process and is committed to the implementation of this Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support the Club's intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of its activities.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed regularly and no later than February 2020.

Signed:

Robert Macken
Chairperson

Rear of St Josephs Rd , Greenhills, Dublin 12.

Chairman: Robbie Macken Tel: 087 6241012
Dir of football: Ger Looney Tel :086 6056352
Exec Member : Andrew Kane Tel :086 3852043

Treasurer: Martin Finn Tel: 085 7600521
Jnr Secretary.: Daren Keane Tel: 086 4193503
Exec Member :Alan Dawnay Tel:087 9175537

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For further information on this Child Safeguarding Statement please contact Derek Cahill by email at info@gbfc.ie

Safeguarding training:

The Club will endeavour to provide approved Safeguarding training for all managers/coaches. Records of Safeguarding training for volunteers will be kept.

Categories and indicators of abuse:

The Club encourages all managers/coaches/volunteers to be aware of the signs and types of abuse that may be experienced by young players involved in the Club.

Further informations on categories of abuse and statutory guidelines can be found at www.tusla.ie/children-first.

Safe management of activities:

Policies and procedures that support the safe management of activities in Greenhills Boys include:

- Supervision Policy;
- Code of Conduct for Players;
- Code of Conduct for Managers/Coaches;
- Code of Conduct for Parents/Guardians & Spectators;
- Incident/Accident Reporting Procedure;
- Anti-Bullying Policy;
- Complaints & Disciplinary Procedure.

FAI Guidelines:

The Football Association of Ireland's regulations in regard to child welfare and protection are defined in the rulebook as:

RULE 71. THE PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN

(a) In line with legislation and Government Guidelines (The Child Care Act 1991 and the Protection for Persons Reporting Abuse Act 1998) in relation to child protection and welfare, it is mandatory that all participants, clubs, leagues, divisional associations and other football bodies shall be bound by the FAI recommended codes of conduct and best practice guidelines

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(b) Any act, statement, conduct or other matter which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, shall constitute behaviour which is improper and brings the game into disrepute.

(c) Breaches shall become a disciplinary offence. Any member issued with a ban from football activity shall have their name notified to all League Secretaries for onward dissemination to all Club Secretaries. The notification shall state the name of the individual and the fact a ban has been issued.

(d) Any participant who is the subject of a Statutory Inquiry in relation to any child welfare concern must stand down from all football activities pending the outcome of that inquiry and any subsequent internal disciplinary proceedings.

(e) Any member convicted of an offence by the Irish Courts or Courts of any other jurisdiction involving the welfare of children shall be automatically banned from membership of the Association. For the avoidance of doubt no disciplinary or other hearing shall be necessary in order to implement this automatic ban.

RULE 95. PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN

All participants, clubs, leagues, divisional associations and other football bodies shall be bound by the FAI rules, codes of conduct and guidelines governing the protection and welfare of children, and breaches of such rules, codes and guidelines shall be subject to disciplinary sanction.

The disciplinary body may impose any sanction it deems appropriate.

Any act, statement, conduct or other matter which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, shall constitute behaviour which is improper and brings the game into disrepute.

Any participant who is the subject of a statutory inquiry in relation to any child welfare concern must stand down from all football activities pending the outcome of that inquiry and any subsequent internal disciplinary proceedings.

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