

# Triathlon Ireland Club Child Safeguarding Statement

## Club Information

Waterford Triathlon Club, based in County Waterford provides sporting activities and opportunities for young people through participation in the club's activities and events.

## Principals to safeguard children from harm

Waterford Triathlon Club is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our NGB and club Safeguarding Policies our club members and volunteers, working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within triathlon. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

**Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in sport.

**Needs of the child** - All children's sport experiences should be guided by what is best for children. This means that adults should 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 sport and should be 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 should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background, or political persuasion.

## Risk

## Assessment

Below is a summary of our risk assessment which indicated areas of potential harm and policy/procedures in place to mitigate these risks. This Risk Assessment was undertaken on the \_\_\_\_\_6/11/24\_\_\_\_\_

Risks Identified (as defined in the Children First Act 2015)	Policies/Procedure in Place to mitigate risks
<p>Club &amp; Coaching Practices</p> <p>Risk of harm by a member of staff/volunteer.</p> <p>Risk of harm of a child by a visitor to the service.</p> <p>Risk of harm of a child on outings/trips.</p>	<p><u>Vetting Policy</u> (Garda vetting &amp; Access NI)</p> <p><u>Safe Recruitment Policy</u></p> <p><u>Codes of Conduct</u></p> <p><u>Safeguarding Policy for Junior Events</u></p> <p><u>Physical Contact Policy</u></p> <p><u>Event Management and Safety Plan</u></p> <p><u>Reporting Procedures for Safeguarding and Code of Conduct Concerns.</u></p> <p><u>Travel and Overnight Trips Policy.</u></p> <p><u>Missing Children Procedure and flow chart</u></p>
<p>Complaints &amp; Discipline</p> <p>Risk of harm through lack of awareness of complaints not being dealt with seriously.</p>	<p><u>Complaints Policy</u></p> <p><u>Disciplinary Policy</u></p>
<p>Reporting Procedures</p> <p>Risk of harm through lack of knowledge of how to report or concerns not reported.</p>	<p><u>Safeguarding Training Policy</u></p> <p><u>Reporting Procedures for Safeguarding and Code of Conduct Concerns.</u></p>

<p>Use of Facilities Unauthorised access to designated children's play &amp; practice areas &amp; to changing rooms.</p> <p>Unauthorised exit from children's areas.</p> <p>Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas.</p> <p>Missing or found child on site.</p> <p>Children sharing facilities with adults.</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Safeguarding Policy for Junior Events</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Safety Guidelines for Club Sessions</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Photography and Filming Policy</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Event Management and Safety Plan</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Missing Children Procedure and flow chart</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Photography and Filming Policy</u></a></p>
<p>Recruitment Risk of harm due to recruitment of inappropriate/unqualified people.</p> <p>Lack of clarity of role.</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Vetting Policy</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Safe Recruitment Policy</u></a></p> <p>Codes of Conduct</p>
<p>Communication Risk of harm of a child through the use of unauthorised photography</p> <p>Risk of harm of online abuse through social media.</p> <p>Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors.</p> <p>No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Behaviour to members of visitors.</p> <p>Unauthorised photography &amp; recording of activities.</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Photography and Filming Policy</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Social Media Guidance for Juniors</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Social Media Guidance for Coaches and Leaders</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Social Media Guidance for Clubs</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Guidance for Coaches and Clubs for Online Sessions</u></a></p>
<p>General Risk of Harm Risk of harm of bullying of a child by a member of staff/volunteer/peer.</p> <p>General behavioural issues.</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Anti-Bullying Policy</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Codes of Conduct</u></a></p>

Harm not being recognised.	<u>Safeguarding Training Policy</u>
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## Procedures

This Child Safeguarding statement was developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015 The Children First: National Guidance, and TUSLA'S Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice and in line with the National Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Children and the Department of Health 'Co-operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in Northern Ireland' and the Children (NI) Order 1995. In addition to our risk assessment Triathlon Ireland have further procedures that support our intention to safeguard young people while they are availing of activities in Triathlon Ireland.

- Procedures for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory authorities.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers.
- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person
- Policy regarding safeguarding training.

The Mandated/ Relevant Person for Triathlon Ireland is Niamh O' Gorman Contact: e.[niamh@triathlonireland.com](mailto:niamh@triathlonireland.com) p.+353 873627106

The Club Children's /Safeguarding Officer for Waterford Triathlon Club is Aubrey Storey

## Implementation

Implementation of our Safeguarding policies is an ongoing process. Our club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities. This statement is published on the club website, has been provided to all club members and is readily available on request. This statement will be reviewed on the (insert date < 24 months- must be updated sooner if personnel change).

Club Chairperson

*Niamh O'Gorman*  
Name

087 396 4050

Contact No.

14-11-24

Date



Club Children's Officer/Safeguarding Officer

Aubrey Storey

Name

*Aubrey Storey*

086-8456405

Contact No.

06/11/2024

Date

Triathlon Ireland Clubs Safeguarding Risk Assessment Document (6/11/2024)  
(Waterford Triathlon Club)

This risk assessment considers the potential for harm to come to children whilst they are in *Waterford Triathlon Club's* care. This risk assessment precedes the Child Safeguarding Statement (Section 11 (1b) Children First Act 2015) which is developed following this risk assessment process. In accordance with the requirements of Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015 the risk is of abuse and not general health and safety risk (covered under a separate H&S policy and risk assessment).

Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015 states that where a person proposes to operate as a provider of a relevant service, he or she shall, within 3 months from the date on which he or she commences as such a provider –

(a) Undertake an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of the service (in this section referred to as a "risk").

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Further action required
<b>CLUB &amp; COACHING PRACTICES</b>				
Lack of appropriate coaching qualification	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe Recruitment policy</li> <li>Safety Guidelines for club sessions document.</li> </ul>	Club Committee Head Coach Club Children's Officer	Coaches and Leaders names and TI numbers to be sent to TI. CCO to maintain a list of those involved with juniors, their Safeguarding requirements and proof of qualification.
Supervision issues	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision policy</li> <li>Safety Guidelines for club sessions document.</li> </ul>	Club Committee Head Coach Club Children's Officer	Ensure Role Clarity Ongoing review

Unauthorised photography & recording activities	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Photography &amp; Filming policy.</li> <li>▪ Social Media Policy.</li> <li>▪ Code of Conduct.</li> </ul>	<p>Club committee Club Children's officer. Club Junior Race director Event Safeguard Lead</p>	<p>Ensure policies are accessible, promoted and distributed. Ongoing review</p>
Behavioural Issues (Coaches, volunteers, juniors.)	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> <li>▪ Complaints &amp; Disciplinary policy</li> <li>▪ Coach/leader education - SG1.</li> </ul>	<p>Club Committee Club Children's Officer Triathlon Ireland</p>	<p>All adults working with juniors to sign a code of conduct and complete Sport Ireland/Sport NI safeguarding training. All juniors and parents/carers are subject to codes of conduct, Ongoing review</p>
Lack of gender balance amongst coaches	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Supervision policy</li> <li>▪ Safety Guidelines for club sessions document.</li> </ul>	<p>Club Committee Club Children's Officer</p>	<p>Recruit additional volunteers to be present at junior sessions to meet gender balance where required.</p>
No guidance for travelling and away trips	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Traveling and overnight trips policy.</li> <li>▪ Coach/leader training - SG1.</li> <li>▪ Vetting policy.</li> </ul>	<p>Club Committee Club Children's Officer Club Coach travelling.</p>	<p>Make TI policies available to all involved prior to travel. Host meeting in advance with all parties to ensure clear communication and understanding of policies. Ongoing review</p>
Lack of adherence with misc. procedures in Safeguarding policy (i.e. mobile, photography, transport)	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Complaints &amp; Disciplinary policy.</li> <li>▪ Safeguarding policy.</li> <li>▪ Code of Conduct.</li> </ul>	<p>Club Committee Club Children's Officer</p>	<p>Develop club specific policies to address lower level concerns.</p>
COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE				

Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safeguarding policy.</li> <li>▪ Reporting &amp; Communications Procedure.</li> <li>▪ Complaints &amp; Disciplinary policy</li> </ul>	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Triathlon Ireland.	Immediate action needed Greater communication required within the club to ensure complaints & disciplinary policy is accessible.
Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent Lack of awareness of reporting procedures.	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Complaints &amp; Disciplinary policy</li> <li>▪ Reporting &amp; Communications procedure.</li> <li>▪ Post names of CCO, DLP, MP.</li> </ul>	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person.	Review the communication/responsibilities of the reporting procedure/policy as required and establish a mechanism for distribution. Publicise identity of CCO, DLP and TI MP using the TI provided poster template. Promote the TI online reporting form.
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Complaints &amp; Disciplinary policy</li> <li>▪ Reporting &amp; Communications procedures.</li> </ul>	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person.	Immediate action required. All complaints should be recorded and passed on where applicable. Consult with TI NCO.
REPORTING PROCEDURES				
Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reporting &amp; Communications procedures.</li> <li>▪ Safe Recruitment Policy</li> <li>▪ Coach/leader training - SG1.</li> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	TI National Children's Officer TI Mandated Person Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person	Make policies and procedures available and include in the induction process for new Coaches/Leaders/Members. Ensure Coaches/Leaders have completed Safeguard 1/Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport. Promote the TI online reporting form.



Lack of awareness of reporting to TI - procedures and contact for the Mandated Person.	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting &amp; Communications Procedure.</li> </ul>	Triathlon Ireland Club Committee	Publicise identity of Mandated Person on the poster template provided to clubs. Promote the TI online reporting form.
No Designated Liaison Person or Children' Officer Appointed	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting &amp; Communications Procedure.</li> <li>Safeguarding Policy</li> </ul>	Triathlon Ireland Club Committee	Club appoints both and ensures DLP completes Safeguard 1 & 3 and CCO completes Safeguard 1 & 2. Publicise identity of DLP and CCO. These are mandatory requirements. (DLP for ROI clubs only).
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting procedures/policy</li> <li>Coach/leader training - SG1.</li> </ul>	Designated Liaison Person Mandated Person	Club ensures all those dealing with juniors have completed Safeguard training to create awareness of types of concerns to report. Publicise names of CCOs, DLPs, MP. Publicise internal and external reporting procedures
Not clear for Young Person or parents/carers who they should talk to or report to	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post the names of Club Children's Officer, Designated Liaison Person and TI Mandated Person.</li> <li>Safeguarding Policy.</li> </ul>	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person. Triathlon Ireland	Communicate within Club. Ensure Safeguard training is completed by those working with juniors. Include information in the recruitment and induction process for new coaches/leaders. Included in membership information. Provide opportunities for juniors to meet CCO and DLP.
FACILITIES				

Unauthorised access to designated children's play & practice area, changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision policy</li> <li>Coach/leader training - SG1.</li> </ul>	Club Children's Officer Club Coach Club Committee	Clarify responsibilities before session starts. Ensure supervision is adequate and the rota is understood by those taking the session.
Unauthorised exit from children's areas	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision policy</li> <li>Coach/Leader training- Safeguard 1.</li> </ul>	Club Children's Officer Club Coach Club Committee	Clarify responsibilities before the session starts. Ensure juniors, parents/carers have been given collection information and no junior is collected without letting coaches/leaders know.
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Photography &amp; Filming Policy.</li> </ul>	Club Children's Officer Club Coach Club Committee Event Safeguard Lead	Enforce policy in private changing areas and pool deck. Make policy accessible for members & guests. Report any suspicious activity.
Missing or found child on site	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Missing or found child policy</li> <li>Safeguarding guidelines for Junior events.</li> </ul>	Club head coach Club Children's Officer Club Committee Event Safeguard Lead	Refer to Missing child procedure and inform Safeguarding officer/lead and Gardaí/PSNI.
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding policy</li> <li>Supervision policy</li> </ul>	Club Coach Club Children's Officer Club Committee	Plan with facilities management to create a suitable child centred environment in shared facilities. Ensure supervision by qualified volunteers/coaches or parents.
RECRUITMENT				
Recruitment of inappropriate people	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe Recruitment policy</li> <li>Safeguarding Policy</li> <li>Vetting Policy</li> </ul>	Triathlon Ireland Club Committee Club Children's Officer	Ensure a comprehensive induction & period of supervision for new Coaches/leaders. Ensure Safe recruitment policy is followed. Promote a culture of reporting in the club to

				ensure a predator who is volunteering in the club is not given access to children. Ongoing review.
Lack of clarity on roles	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe Recruitment policy</li> <li>Safety Guidelines for Club Sessions document.</li> </ul>	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Club Head Coach	Role clarified during induction process and prior to each session. Review following induction period.
Unqualified or untrained people in role	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe Recruitment policy</li> </ul>	Club Committee	Comprehensive induction Check with Triathlon Ireland to confirm qualification, safeguarding information and insurance information or requirements. Ongoing review
<b>COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA</b>				
Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement</li> <li>Coach/leader training-SG1.</li> <li>Safe Recruitment Policy</li> </ul>	Triathlon Ireland Club Committee Club Children's Officer Event Safeguard Lead Event Organiser	Circulate Child Safeguarding Statement. Make Safeguarding Policy accessible. Induction for those helping as a 'once off' at events. Ongoing review.
No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Behaviour to members & visitors	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding Policy</li> <li>Display Child Safeguarding Statement.</li> <li>Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	Club Committee Children's Officer Event Safeguard Lead. Event Organiser	Circulate Child Safeguarding Statement. Distribute Code Conduct. Code of conduct poster displayed at junior events. Ongoing review.

Unauthorised photography & recording of activities	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Photography and Filming policy</li> <li>Code of Conduct</li> <li>Social Media Policy</li> <li>Complaints and disciplinary policy.</li> </ul>	<p>Triathlon Ireland Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person Event Safeguard Lead. Event Organiser</p>	<p>Make Photography &amp; Filming Policy available at events where non-members may be in attendance. Intervene if there is suspicious activity for example someone not connected to the event filming or taking images of young people. Report where required. Ongoing review.</p>
Inappropriate use of social media and communications by Under 18's	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Code of conduct</li> <li>Social Media guidance for juniors.</li> </ul>	<p>Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person.</p>	<p>Education piece for club juniors highlighting the TI social media guidance. Ongoing review</p>
Inappropriate use of social media and communications between adults and Under 18's	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complaints &amp; disciplinary policy</li> <li>Code of conduct.</li> <li>Social Media Policy</li> <li>Coach/leader training - SG1.</li> </ul>	<p>Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person TI NCO</p>	<p>Publicise Social Media Policy. Outline guidance for communication with junior athletes via their parents/carers. Ensure club social media content is appropriate for junior members. Consult with TI NCO. Ongoing review</p>
GENERAL RISK OF HARM				
Harm not being recognised	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding policy</li> <li>Safeguarding training policy</li> </ul>	<p>Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person.</p>	<p>Ensure Safeguard training is up to date. Informal consult with Tusla(ROI)/Gateway(NI) or TI NCO. Ongoing review.</p>




TI = Triathlon Ireland  
DLP = Designated Liaison Person – refers to club position  
CCO = Club Children’s Officer

SG1= Safeguard 1 Course.  
NCO = National Children’s Officer- refers to TI position  
MP = Mandated Person - refers to TI position

Event Safeguard Lead = Person named on Event Management plan responsible for Safeguarding at junior races.

Harm caused by - child to child - adult to child	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safeguarding policy</li> <li>▪ Coach/leader training-SG1.</li> <li>▪ Codes of Conduct.</li> <li>▪ Safe Recruitment Policy.</li> <li>▪ Communication &amp; Reporting Processes.</li> </ul>	Triathlon Ireland NCO &MP Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person	Informal consult with Tusla(ROI)/Gateway(NI). Report to statutory authorities. Report to TI Mandated Person. Ongoing review
General behavioural issues	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> <li>▪ Complaints and Disciplinary Procedures.</li> </ul>	Triathlon Ireland Club Committee Club Children's Officer.	Ensure all coaches/leaders/volunteers have signed a code of conduct. Take disciplinary action where necessary. Develop procedure for managing lower level concerns at club level.

This Risk Assessment document has been discussed and completed by *Waterford Triathlon Club* on 6/11 /24

Name: Tom Casey	Name: Aubrey Storey
Signed: 	Signed: 
Role: Club Chairperson	Role: Club Children's Officer
Date: 14-11-24	Date: 6/11/2024

Explanation of terms used:

- Potential risk of harm to children – these are identified risks of harm to children whilst accessing activities in the Club/Region/Province/NGB.
- Likelihood of harm happening – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the club/region/NGB measured by you as Low/Medium or High.
- Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document – indication of the policy required to alleviate the risk.
- Responsibility – provider should indicate where the responsibility for alleviating the risk lies.
- Further action... - indicates further action that might be necessary to alleviate any risk ongoing