



## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment for *Coill Dubh A.F.C.*

This risk assessment considers the potential for harm to come to children whilst they are in the care of **Coill Dubh A.F.C.** 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”).

Explanation of terms used:

- **Potential risk of harm to children** – these are identified risks of harm to children whilst accessing activities in the Club.
- **Likelihood of harm happening** – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the club measured 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.


This Risk Assessment document has been discussed and completed by *Coill Dubh A.F.C.* on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Signed: 

Name: George Smith

Role: Club Secretary

Date: **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Signed: 

Name: Mike Ennis

Role: Club Children's Officer

Date: **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024**



Club & Coaching Practices				
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
Lack of coaching qualification	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer Education &amp; Support Policy</li> <li>Volunteer Recruitment policy</li> </ul>	Club	Recruit coaches with qualifications Support education of current coaches Ongoing Review
Supervision issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision &amp; Missing or Found Child Policy</li> </ul>	Club	Develop and review policy. Conduct regular reviews of supervision practices; clarify roles during induction.
Unauthorised photography & recording activities	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications, Photography &amp; Social Media Policy</li> </ul>	Club	Develop, review and implement policy Communicate and enforce policies at all events; display reminders prominently. Ongoing Review
Behavioural Issues	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Codes of Conduct</li> <li>Safeguarding Level 1 Training</li> <li>Complaints, Grievances &amp; Discipline Policy</li> <li>Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy</li> </ul>	Club	Develop, review and implement policy Publish internal and external reporting procedures Monitor behaviour and address concerns through disciplinary procedures; reinforce policies in training.
Lack of gender balance amongst coaches	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer Recruitment Policy</li> <li>Supervision &amp; Missing or Found Child Policy</li> </ul>	Club	Ongoing review Actively recruit diverse volunteers; include gender equity goals in recruitment campaigns.
No guidance for travelling and away trips	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding Level 1 Training</li> <li>Supervision &amp; Missing or Found Child Policy</li> </ul>	Club	Implement detailed trip procedures; ensure adequate supervision procedures for volunteers. Ongoing review
Lack of adherence with in Safeguarding procedures	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer Code of Conduct</li> <li>Complaints, Grievances &amp; Discipline Policy</li> <li>Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy</li> </ul>	Club	Reinforce procedures during induction and training; monitor compliance regularly; address breaches through disciplinary action.



### Complaints, Discipline and Reporting Procedures

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
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer Code of Conduct</li> <li>Complaints, Grievances &amp; Discipline Policy</li> <li>Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Communicate the Complaints, Grievances & Discipline Policy to all members through induction, meetings, and Club platforms.
Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent.	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complaints, Grievances &amp; Discipline Policy</li> <li>Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy</li> <li>FAI Child Welfare &amp; Safeguarding Policy</li> <li>FAI Concern-Complaint Policy</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Review responsibilities and communication procedures; establish clear, child-friendly reporting mechanisms.
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	<b>L</b>		<b>NGB / Club</b>	Ensure robust training for those handling complaints; ongoing review to improve the complaint resolution process.
Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures	<b>M</b>		<b>NGB / MP / DLP</b>	Safeguarding Level 1 Training, make policies and procedures readily available
No Mandated Person appointed	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement</li> <li>FAI Child Welfare &amp; Safeguarding Policy</li> <li>FAI Concern-Complaint Policy</li> <li>Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy</li> </ul>	<b>NGB / CLUB</b>	Mandated person appointed, publicise identity of Mandated Person, Continued training of Mandated Person in their role.
No DLP Appointed	<b>L</b>			DLP appointed, publicise identity of DLP, Continued training of DLP in their role.
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FAI Child Welfare &amp; Safeguarding Policy</li> <li>FAI Concern-Complaint Policy</li> <li>Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy</li> <li>Safeguarding Level 1 Training</li> </ul>	<b>NGB / CLUB</b>	Safeguarding Level 1 Training, publicise internal & external policies and procedures.
Not clear who YP should talk to or report to	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post the names of CCOs, DLPs and MP</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Communication to Children and Parents via coaches and handbook.



Facilities				
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
Unauthorised access to designated children's play & practice areas and to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision &amp; Missing or Found Child Policy</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Control access with clear signage, locked doors, and monitored entry points; where necessary assign supervisors to monitor areas. Parents must supervise children when not in direct care of the coach.
Unauthorised exit from children's areas	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision &amp; Missing or Found Child Policy</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Coaches to ensure children are not leaving supervised areas without permission. Parents to ensure children are aware of boundaries.
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications, Photography &amp; Social Media Policy</li> <li>FAI Social Media policy</li> </ul>	<b>NGB / Club</b>	Enforce policy in private changing and wet areas
Missing or found child on site	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision &amp; Missing or Found Child Policy</li> </ul>	<b>Club / Gardai</b>	Follow policy and inform Gardai if necessary.
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision &amp; Missing or Found Child Policy</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Showers and Dressing rooms will be restricted. Facilities will be planned to be child centred.



Recruitment				
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
Recruitment of inappropriate people	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer Recruitment policy</li> <li>Volunteer Code of Conduct</li> <li>Complaints, Grievances &amp; Discipline Policy</li> <li>Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy</li> <li>FAI Child Welfare &amp; Safeguarding Policy</li> <li>FAI Concern-Complaint Policy</li> </ul>	<b>NGB Club CCO</b>	Ongoing review, established reporting protocols and vetting.
Lack of clarity on roles	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer Recruitment policy</li> <li>Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Provided job descriptions for roles. Put supervision in place where necessary.
Unqualified or untrained people in role	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer Education &amp; Support Policy</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Ongoing review, supervision and supporting education of volunteers.



### Communications & Social Media

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
Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement</li> </ul>	<b>NGB / Club / CCO</b>	Display Child Safeguarding Statement prominently at entrances. Ensure latest version of statement is displayed on website.
No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Behaviour to members or visitors	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement</li> <li>Codes of Conduct</li> </ul>	<b>Club / CCO</b>	Display Child Safeguarding Statement prominently at entrances. Ensure latest versions is displayed on website. Highlight attention to them when membership is paid.
Unauthorised photography & recording of activities	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications, Photography &amp; Social Media Policy</li> <li>FAI Social Media policy</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Ongoing review FAI Social Media Policy
Inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18's	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications, Photography &amp; Social Media Policy</li> <li>Codes of Conduct</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Ongoing review
Inappropriate use of social media and communications with under 18's	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications, Photography &amp; Social Media Policy</li> <li>Codes of Conduct</li> </ul>	<b>Club</b>	Continue to educate coaches on policy; ensure all communications follow the guidelines outlined in the policy.



General Risk of Harm				
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
Harm not being recognised	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement</li> <li>Safeguarding Level 1 Training</li> </ul>	Club	Ongoing & refresher training in Child Safeguarding
Harm caused by child to child	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Codes of Conduct</li> <li>Complaints, Grievances &amp; Discipline Policy</li> <li>Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy</li> <li>FAI Child Welfare &amp; Safeguarding Policy</li> <li>FAI Concern-Complaint Policy</li> </ul>	Club	Implement a system to report and address incidents of harm between children; encourage open communication.
Harm caused by coach to child	M		Club	Ongoing & refresher training in Child Safeguarding. Implement a system to report and address incidents of harm. Encourage open communication.
Harm caused by volunteer to child	M		Club	
Harm caused by member to child	M		Club	
Harm caused by visitor to child	L		Club	Ongoing review Implement a system to report and address incidents of harm.
General behavioural issues	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Codes of Conduct</li> <li>Complaints, Grievances &amp; Discipline Policy</li> <li>Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy</li> </ul>	Club	Provide clear behaviour expectations; regular monitoring and support for both coaches and children; follow up on complaints.