CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT AND GUIDELINES 2023

Harps CC is fully committed to safeguarding the well being of its members. Every individual in the club should at all times, show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of all its members and the general public. Members should conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of fair play and sport for all and conforms with the guidelines provided by our governing body (Cycling Ireland) and contained in the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children`s Sport

To ensure that best practice is followed by Harps CC we shall work closely with Cycling Ireland and in order to promote the best practice in children`s sport, we shall comply with the guidelines of the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children`s Sport; as set out in Section 2.7 of the code and listed below

We commit to implement the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children`s Sport as an integral part of our policy on children / vulnerable adults in the club.

The club constitution must be adopted and approved by club members at an AGM or EGM

We must promote the voice of the child especially through meetings and the AGM. One parent or guardian should have one vote for all their children under18 years of age, where relevant.

The Club Management Committee is elected or endorsed by registered club members at each AGM.

There must be a clearly defined and consistent method of recruiting and selecting Sports Leaders

All committee members, all Sports Leaders and all parents will have clearly defined roles

Appoint at least one Children`s Officer/ Safeguarding Officer. In the event that the club caters for both boys and girls, one Officer of each gender would ideally be appointed.

The Club must appoint a Designated Person to act as liaison with the Statutory Authorities in relation to the reporting of allegations or suspicions of child abuse. Any such reports should be made according to the procedures outlined in this Code.

To ensure best practice the details of the Code of Conduct, including the disciplinary, complaints and appeals procedures operated by the club should be shared with all members. The clubs code of conduct should also be posted in all facilities used by the club.

We have in place procedures for dealing with concerns or complaints made to the Statutory Authorities against a committee member or Sports Leader or any club member. Regulations stipulate that a Sports Leader who is the subject of an allegation, which has been reported to the Statutory Authorities, should stand aside, while the matter is being examined. He /She will be invited to resume full duties when and if appropriate internal disciplinary procedures are completed.

Sports Leaders must report to the Club Management Committee on a regular basis

The club will encourage a regular turnover of committee membership while still ensuring continuity and experience

Develop effective procedures for responding to and recording ALL accidents both big and small

Monitor any unusual activity (high drop - out rate, transfers etc.) and this is reported by the Club Chair person to Cycling Ireland.

All club members are to be given adequate notice of AGMs EGMs and other meetings

The minutes of all meetings (AGMs/ EGMs/, Committee) are recorded and safely filed

The above are guidelines from the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children`s Sport but will be used as a template by Harps CC to protect and safeguard not just children but any vulnerable adults who are either club members or who may be participating in or attending club events.

A signed and dated copy of this document will be retained on file by the club Secretary and must be refreshed every year.