

## Tyrrelstown Cricket Club - Safeguarding Children policy statement

Tyrrelstown Cricket Club (The Club) is committed to ensuring that all Children (under the age of 18) participating in cricket training & matches have a safe environment.

We will do this by:

Recognising that all children participating in cricket (regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability) have a right to have fun and are protected from harm.

1. Ensuring that individuals working within cricket at, or for, our club provide a safe, positive and fun cricketing experience for children.
2. Adopting and implementing the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) "Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children" and any future versions of this.
3. Appointing a Club Welfare Officer and ensuring they attend all current and future training modules required to have the necessary skills to undertake their role effectively.
4. Ensuring that all people who work in cricket at, or for, our club (such as staff, officials, volunteers, team managers, coaches and so on) understand the "Safe Hands Policy" as it applies to them according to their level of contact with children in cricket.
5. There is no room for bullying, violence, abusive language.
6. Ensuring that all individuals working within cricket at, or for, the club are provided with support, through education and training, so they are aware of, and can adhere to, good practice and code of conduct guidelines defined by the club.
7. Away trips, transport, photography policies are in place.
8. Information about child, parents are ONLY shared to the concerned authorities or people.
9. Reviewing above on a regular basis (every 2 years) & change any, if required.
10. Ensuring that the name and contact details of the Club Welfare Officer are available

- As the first point of contact for parents, children and volunteers/staff within the club
- As a local source of procedural advice for the club, its committee and members
- As the main point of contact within the club for relevant external agencies in connection with child safeguarding.

	<b>Risk identified</b>	<b>Procedure in place to manage risk identified</b>
1.	E-Technology and social media	Social Media, Email & text policy.
2.	Late collection of children	Transport policy
3.	Children in Open Competition	Young players in adult Cricket policy
4.	Changing rooms and showering policy	Changing room & Showering policy
5.	Coaching Sessions	Hiring procedure.
6.	Use of photography + website	Photography policy
7.	Transport for matches (both home & away matches)	Transport policy
8.	Physical contact	Physical contact policy
9.	Bullying	Anti-bullying policy
10.	Disciplinary procedures, sanctions	Disciplinary procedure

### **Social Media, Email & text policy.**

- Club officers, captains & members must not accept requests from children to be their 'friend' on social media.
- It is mandatory to have the consent of child before posting any information online - this includes any data, photographs.
- All emails, text messages to children (aged U18) must go via their parents.
- No individual text messages or emails with children is allowed without their parents receiving the same.
- Club uses WhatsApp as medium of communication.
- Children are ONLY contacted in relation to matches, coaching.
- Club will ensure that children/parents know the procedure when they receive an offensive message, photograph, email. Advice is to report to the Children's Officer.

### **Photography policy.**

- Photographs are not to be taken either during training or at matches without the prior permission of the parent(s) of the child. The consent of parent will be taken during registration of the child.
- Without parent(s) consent, club will ensure NO photographs of the children are taken.
- No photographs of the children are posted on website (including Facebook) without prior consent of the parent(s).
- If photograph is used, club will avoid naming the child.
- Club will ensure that if children have any concerns, they can report the concern to the captain / club officer.

### **Changing room & Showering policy.**

- Presently, Tyrrelstown Cricket Club doesn't have Shower facilities for all home matches
- For away matches, club will ensure that the adults and the children do not use shower at the same time.
- Club ensures that if children are uncomfortable changing at the club, no pressure to do so.
- No mobiles must be used in the changing rooms.

### **Young players in adult Cricket policy.**

- Club will ensure the safety of the young players (below 18 years) while encouraging the development of the children.
- Club believes in providing opportunities for children to show their talents in an appropriate way. However, the minimum age guidance provided by ECB/LCU is followed.

### ***Minimum ages***

➤ Fast Bowling Directives and Fielding Regulations should always be adhered to for junior players in adult cricket. Young players who are selected for provincial U13 squads are eligible to play adult cricket. This is providing they are at least 11 years old on 1 September of the preceding year, and have written parental consent to play.

➤ Players who are not in provincial squads must be at least 12 years of age in the September of the preceding year before they are allowed to play adult cricket. Written parental consent is required.

- Ensure young player always wears helmet while batting and fielding close.

### ***Duty of Care***

- Not to create a situation that places members of the opposing side in a position whereby they cannot play cricket as they would normally do against adult players.
- Not to place a young player in a position that involves an unreasonable risk to that young player, taking account of the circumstances of the match and the relative skills of the player.

### **Transport policy.**

- Club is NOT responsible to transport or arrange the transport of young players (under 18) to and from the matches.
- Fixtures list will be communicated either by mail / by posting it on Facebook at the start of the season to allow parents to make necessary arrangements.
- Pick-up and drop-off points are notified to parents.
- Parent(s) consent is MUST to allow the young player to travel with adult to matches.
- Chances of having another adult in the car is NOT always guaranteed by the club.
- Time keeping will be emphasised to parents as issues may arise due to late collection of the child.
- If parent/carer is late to collect the child, then club will:
  - Attempt to make contact with the parent/carer.
  - Wait with the child (if possible accompanied by other adult).
  - Not to send a child home with another person without prior parent consent.
  - Remind parent/care regarding late collection policy & procedures.
  - Finally, as last resort, inform Tulsa or the Garda.

### **Physical contact policy.**

Adult must ONLY use physical contact if its aim is to:

- Injury treatment purpose.
- Teach any sports related technique.
- Prevent an injury or accident.
- Explain the reason for the physical contact.
- Unless emergency, the adult should ask child's permission.

### **Anti-bullying policy.**

- At Tyrrelstown Cricket Club any form of bullying is NOT tolerated.
- We are committed to providing a caring, safe environment for all children so they can train and play in a relaxed, safe and secure environment.

- If bullying does occur, all children should be able to tell, and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.
- Anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the any member of the club OR officials.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional: being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding kit, threatening gestures)
- Physical: pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist: racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual: unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Verbal: name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyber: All areas of internet, such as email and internet chat room misuse. Mobile threats by text messaging and calls. Misuse of associated technology i.e. camera/ video.

In cases of adults reported to be bullying cricketers under the age of 18, the club Executive Committee will be informed and will advise on action to be taken.

\*\*\*\* Bullying will not be tolerated at Tyrrelstown Cricket Club.

### **Hiring procedure.**

- Club mostly hires coaches on temporary / weekly basis. We hire Leinster Cricket coaches who are Garda vetted and are qualified coaches.
- If we were to hire other than Leinster Cricket coaches, we would make sure he/she is Garda Vetted and is qualified to coach as per LCU norms.

### **Disciplinary procedure.**

- Breach of code of conduct may result in taking disciplinary action against the player.
- Upon proving the breach, young player may be asked to apologies verbally for less serious offence.
- For serious offence, player may be suspended for a match or for a period of time
- No physical sanction (push-ups, running laps) will be given.
- When imposing sanctions, the following considerations are taken into account:
  - Age of child, seriousness of offence, evidence, possible effect on child
  - A child must be accompanied at any disciplinary hearing. A child cannot be compelled to attend
  - If child wishes to make statement, it should be prepared in advance in written format
- Details of person under 18 not to be published.