



TÍR CONAILL FOOTBALL CLUB

CHILD WELLBEING & SAFEGUARDING POLICY

THE WELFARE OF EVERY CHILD IS ALWAYS OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY

VERSION

1.0

APPROVED BY

TCFC COMMITTEE

EFFECTIVE

6TH JULY 2026

REVIEW

ANNUALLY

WELCOME

A SAFE PLACE TO PLAY

At Tír Conaill Football Club, we believe every child deserves the opportunity to enjoy football in a safe, welcoming and positive environment. This policy sets out our commitment to safeguarding every child who participates in our club, and the responsibilities shared by coaches, volunteers, parents and players.

Safeguarding is not a document that sits on a shelf — it is an everyday commitment lived out on the touchline, in the changing room and across every corner of our community. Everyone connected with TCFC has a part to play in keeping children safe.

THE WELFARE OF EVERY CHILD WILL ALWAYS BE OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY.

This handbook explains how we protect children's wellbeing, how we respond to concerns, and where to turn for help. Please read it, keep it to hand, and help us uphold it.

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OUR COMMITMENT

The foundations of everything we do — the rights of every child, the promises we make as a club, and the values that guide our decisions.

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

01 POLICY STATEMENT

OUR STARTING POINT

Tír Conaill Football Club is committed to promoting the wellbeing, safety and protection of every child and young person involved in our activities. We believe that every child has the right to:

- Feel safe.
- Be respected.
- Be listened to.
- Be treated fairly.
- Enjoy football in a positive environment.
- Reach their full potential.

02 OUR COMMITMENT

THE PROMISES WE MAKE

Tír Conaill Football Club will:

- Put children's wellbeing first.
- Promote a positive football environment.
- Recruit suitable coaches and volunteers.
- Provide appropriate safeguarding training.
- Appoint a Child Wellbeing & Protection Officer.
- Listen to children and parents.
- Respond appropriately to all concerns.
- Work with the Scottish FA, SYFA and statutory agencies where necessary.

03 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

OUR CLUB VALUES

RESPECT**INCLUSION****INTEGRITY****TEAMWORK****COMMUNITY**

We are committed to creating a football club where every child feels welcomed, valued and supported.

04 SCOPE

WHO THIS POLICY APPLIES TO

This policy applies to everyone taking part in TCFC activities:

PLAYERS	COACHES	VOLUNTEERS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS	PARENTS & GUARDIANS
MATCH OFFICIALS	SPECTATORS	VISITORS		

05 CHILD WELLBEING

REFLECTING SCOTLAND'S GIRFEC PRINCIPLES

Our approach reflects Scotland's Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) wellbeing indicators. We aim to help every child become:

SAFE	HEALTHY	ACHIEVING	NURTURED
ACTIVE	RESPECTED	RESPONSIBLE	INCLUDED

Every decision made by the club should promote these wellbeing indicators.

HOW THE CLUB OPERATES

The structures and safeguards behind the scenes — how we run the club, who holds responsibility, and how we make sure the right adults are in the right roles.

06 CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

WHAT THE CLUB WILL DO

- Adopt safeguarding policies.
- Review policies annually.
- Ensure coaches understand safeguarding responsibilities.
- Take all concerns seriously.
- Maintain appropriate records.
- Manage concerns confidentially.
- Promote equality and inclusion.

07 CHILD WELLBEING & PROTECTION OFFICER

YOUR FIRST POINT OF CONTACT

Tír Conaill Football Club has appointed a Child Wellbeing & Protection Officer (CWPO), responsible for:

- Receiving safeguarding concerns.
- Supporting coaches and volunteers.
- Maintaining safeguarding records.
- Liaising with the Scottish FA, SYFA and statutory agencies where appropriate.
- Promoting safeguarding awareness across the club.

OUR CHILD WELLBEING & PROTECTION OFFICER

NAME

JULIE MARGEY

MOBILE

07584 679 117

EMAIL

cwpo@tirconailfc.com

08 SAFE RECRUITMENT

THE RIGHT PEOPLE IN EVERY ROLE

Where required by law and Scottish football guidance, adults carrying out regulated work with children will complete the appropriate PVG process before undertaking those duties. The club will also:

- Verify identity.
- Obtain references where appropriate.
- Ensure safeguarding training requirements are met.
- Maintain safe recruitment records.

09 CODES OF CONDUCT

STANDARDS FOR EVERYONE

Everyone connected with TCFC is expected to follow our codes of conduct, which form part of this policy:

**PLAYER CODE OF
CONDUCT**

**PARENT & GUARDIAN
CODE OF CONDUCT**

**COACH & VOLUNTEER
CODE OF CONDUCT**

INCLUSION & PROTECTION

A club where every child belongs and is kept safe — in person and online. How we champion inclusion, prevent harm, and stay alert to the signs that a child may need help.

EVERY CHILD SHOULD FEEL THEY BELONG.

10 EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Tír Conaill Football Club welcomes everyone. We do not tolerate:

- Bullying
- Harassment
- Racism
- Sexism
- Homophobia
- Transphobia
- Disability discrimination
- Religious discrimination

...or any form of abusive behaviour.

11 ANTI-BULLYING

ZERO TOLERANCE

Bullying has no place at Tír Conaill Football Club. All allegations will be taken seriously and investigated appropriately. Children will always be supported.

12 PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO

CAPTURING THE GAME SAFELY

The club will:

- Obtain appropriate parental permissions.
- Use images responsibly.
- Protect children's privacy.
- Follow club photography guidance.

Parents and spectators are expected to respect these arrangements.

13 ONLINE SAFETY

RESPONSIBLE BY DEFAULT

Everyone representing TCFC should:

- Use social media responsibly.
- Protect children's privacy.
- Avoid inappropriate online communication.
- Follow the club's Social Media Policy.

14 MEDICAL INFORMATION

KEEPING CHILDREN WELL

PARENTS MUST

- Inform the club of relevant medical conditions.
- Update emergency contacts.
- Notify coaches of any changes.

THE CLUB WILL

- Hold information securely.
- Share only where necessary for a child's wellbeing.

15 FIRST AID

PROMPT, QUALIFIED CARE

Qualified first aiders will provide appropriate first aid where required. Where urgent medical attention is necessary, emergency services will be contacted without delay, and parents will be informed as soon as practicable.

16 RECOGNISING CONCERNS

KNOWING THE SIGNS

Everyone should remain alert to concerns regarding:

PHYSICAL ABUSE

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

SEXUAL ABUSE

NEGLECT

BULLYING

ONLINE HARM

GROOMING

EXPLOITATION

NO CONCERN IS TOO SMALL TO REPORT.

RESPONDING TO CONCERNS

What to do when something isn't right. Clear, calm steps for listening to a child, reporting a concern, and handling information responsibly.

17 RESPONDING TO A DISCLOSURE

IF A CHILD TELLS YOU SOMETHING CONCERNING

DO

- Listen.
- Stay calm.
- Reassure the child.
- Record the facts.
- Report immediately.

DO NOT

- Promise secrecy.
- Ask leading questions.
- Investigate yourself.
- Delay reporting.

18 REPORTING CONCERNS

THE STEPS TO TAKE

IF A CHILD IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER

Call 999 immediately. Do not wait — emergency services take priority over every other step.

999

Otherwise, follow these steps:

- 1 Inform the Club Child Wellbeing & Protection Officer, **Julie Margey** — 07584 679 117 · cwpo@tirconailfc.com
- 2 The CWPO will follow Scottish football safeguarding procedures and involve the appropriate statutory agencies where required.

19 CONFIDENTIALITY

HANDLED WITH CARE

Safeguarding information will be shared only on a need-to-know basis, and in accordance with our legal and safeguarding responsibilities.

20 PRIVACY & DATA PROTECTION

YOUR INFORMATION, PROTECTED

Personal information will be:

- Stored securely.
- Used only for legitimate club purposes.
- Processed in accordance with UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.
- Shared only where necessary for safeguarding or legal reasons.

OPERATIONS & REVIEW

Keeping the policy alive — safe trips, clear consequences, regular review, and the people to contact when you need support.

21 TRIPS & AWAY FIXTURES

SAFE ON THE ROAD

The club will:

- Obtain parental consent.
- Hold emergency contacts.
- Ensure appropriate supervision.
- Complete risk assessments where appropriate.

22 BREACHES OF THIS POLICY

CLEAR CONSEQUENCES

Failure to comply may result in:

- 1 Advice and guidance.
- 2 Further safeguarding training.
- 3 Suspension from club activities.
- 4 Referral to relevant football authorities or statutory agencies where appropriate.

23 MONITORING & REVIEW

ALWAYS IMPROVING

This policy will be reviewed:

- Every 12 months.
- Following any significant safeguarding incident.
- Following changes to Scottish football or Scottish Government safeguarding guidance.

24 USEFUL CONTACTS

WHERE TO TURN FOR HELP

CHILD WELLBEING & PROTECTION OFFICER

JULIE MARGEY

07584 679 117

cwpo@tirconailfc.com

CLUB SECRETARY

IONA WOODS

secretary@tirconailfc.com

EMERGENCY SERVICES – IF A CHILD IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER

999

SCOTTISH FA – WELLBEING & PROTECTION

childrenswellbeing@scottishfa.co.uk

SCOTTISH YOUTH FA (SYFA)

syfachildwellbeing@scottish-football.com

LOCAL AUTHORITY SOCIAL WORK – SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

0303 123 1008

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

PARENT & GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I confirm that I have read and understood the Tír Conaill Football Club Child Wellbeing & Safeguarding Policy, and agree to support the club's commitment to creating a safe, respectful and positive environment for every child.

PARENT / GUARDIAN NAME

CHILD'S NAME / TEAM

SIGNATURE

DATE

**ROOTED IN DONEGAL. BUILT IN GLASGOW.**