**Risk Assessment Document for *(insert Club/Branch/Organisation)***

This risk assessment considers the potential for harm to come to children whilst they are in ***(insert Club/Branch/Organisation)*** 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 —**

1. 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** | **Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to** | **Further**  **Actions** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES** | | | | | |  |
| **Lack of coaching qualification** | |  | * Coach Education Policy/Guidelines * Safeguarding Training Policy * Recruitment policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Supervision issues** | |  | * Supervision policy * Codes of Conduct * Coach Education Policy/Guidelines | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Unauthorised photography & recording activities** | |  | * Photography and Use of Images policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Behavioural Issues** | |  | * Codes of Conduct * Safeguarding Training Policy * Complaints & Disciplinary policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Lack of gender balance amongst coaches** | |  | * Recruitment Policy * Supervision policy * Coach Education Policy/Guidelines | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **No guidance for travelling and away trips** | |  | * Travel/Away trip policy * Codes of Conduct * Permission Forms * Safeguarding Training Policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy (i.e. mobile, transport)** | |  | * HSI Code of Ethics Document * Safeguarding Training Policy * Complaints & disciplinary policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE** | | | | | |  |
| **Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy** | |  | * Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy * Communications procedure | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent** | |  | * Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy * Communications procedure | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Complaints not being dealt with seriously** | |  | * Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **REPORTING PROCEDURES** | | | | | |  |
| **Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures** | |  | * Reporting procedures/policy * Safeguarding Training Policy * Codes of Conduct /Behaviour | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate and HSI |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **No Mandated Person appointed** | |  | * Reporting procedures/policy | HSI |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **No DLP Appointed** | |  | * Reporting procedures/policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **No NCO Appointed** | |  | * Reporting procedures/policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Concerns of abuse or harm not reported** | |  | * Reporting procedures/policy * Safeguarding Training Policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Not clear who young people should talk to or report to** | |  | * Code of Ethics Document * Safeguarding Training Policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **FACILITIES** | | | | | |  |
| **Unauthorised access to designated children’s play & practice areas and to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.** | |  | * Supervision policy * Coach Education Policy/Guidelines | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate | *Clarify responsibilities before session starts* | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Unauthorised exit from children’s areas** | |  | * Supervision policy * Coach Education Policy/Guidelines | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate | *Clarify responsibilities before session starts* | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas** | |  | * Photography policy and use of devices in private zones | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate | *Enforce policy in private changing and wet areas* | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Missing or found child on site** | |  | * Missing or found child policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate | *Refer to policy and inform Gardai* | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.** | |  | * Safeguarding Training Policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate | *Plan with facilities management to create a suitable child centred environment in shared facilities* | *Ongoing Review* |
| **RECRUITMENT** | | | | | |  |
| **Recruitment of inappropriate people** | |  | * Recruitment policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Lack of clarity on roles** | |  | * Recruitment policy * Safeguarding Training Policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Unqualified or untrained people in voluntary roles** | |  | * Recruitment policy * Safeguarding Training Policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA** | | | | | |  |
| **Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors** |  | | * Child Safeguarding Statement * Safeguarding Training Policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate | *Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement* | *Ongoing Review* |
| **No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Behaviour to**  **members or visitors** |  | | * Child Safeguarding Statement – display * Code of Behaviour   - distribute | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate | *Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement* | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Unauthorised photography & recording of activities** |  | | * Photography and Use of Images policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18’s** |  | | * Photography and Use of Images policy * Codes of conduct | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Inappropriate use of social media and communications with under 18’s** |  | | * Photography and Use of Images policy * Codes of conduct | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **GENERAL RISK OF HARM** | | | | | |  |
| **Harm not being recognised** |  | | * Safeguarding Training Policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **Harm caused by**   * **child to child** * **coach to child** * **volunteer to child** * **member to child** * **visitor to child** |  | | * HSI Code of Ethics Document * Safeguarding Training Policy * Codes of Conduct | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |
| **General behavioural issues** |  | | * Codes of Conduct * Recruitment Policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Ongoing Review* |

**This Risk Assessment document has been discussed and completed by *INSERT Club/Branch/Organisation on*: *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \*The risk assessment for purposes of the Children First Act 2015 and the organisations Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed every two years.***

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** **Name:**

**Role:** Club/Branch/Organisation *Children’s Officer* **Role:** *Club/Branch/Organisation Chairperson/Manager/Owner*

**Date:** **Date:**

**Explanation of terms used:**

* **Potential risk of harm to children** – these are identified risks of harm to children whilst accessing activities in the Affiliate
* **Likelihood of harm happening** – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the Affiliate 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.
* **Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to** - The steps you take to alleviate risks presently
* **NGB** – National Governing Body
* **NCO** – National Children’s Officer
* **MP** – Mandated Person (Appointed by the NGB as a requirement under the Children’s First Act 2015)

**Please see below, three examples of how we might complete the relevant sections within the risk assessment table, identifying the level of risk, who is responsible, what action may be needed and what actions we are already taking:**

**Example 1**

| **Potential risk of harm to children** | **Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H** | **Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document** | **Responsibility**  **Club/Region/National** | **Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to** | **Further Actions** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES** | | | | |  |
| **Lack of coaching qualification** | **L** | * Safeguarding Training Policy * Recruitment policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate | *Coaches must have Garda Vetting, completed Safeguarding 1 Training. References are checked.* | *Ongoing review to ensure we adhere to the recruitment guidelines* |

**Example 2**

| **Potential risk of harm to children** | **Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H** | **Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document** | **Responsibility**  **Club/Region/National** | **Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to** | **Further Actions** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE** | | | | |  |
| **Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy** | **H** | * Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy * Communications procedure | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate |  | *Immediate Action Required – Make reporting procedures available to members* |

**Example 3**

| **Potential risk of harm to children** | **Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H** | **Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document** | **Responsibility**  **Club/Region/National** | **Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to** | **Further Actions** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **RECRUITMENT** | | | | |  |
| **Recruitment of inappropriate people** | **M** | * Recruitment policy | Club/Branch/Organisation  Affiliate | *Rigidly follow the recruitment procedures as set out in our Code of Ethics Document* | *Ongoing review to adhere to policy* |