

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Ashbourne Baseball Club

Section 1 – Club Details

Ashbourne Baseball Club provides various sporting activities and opportunities for young people. Club details:

- **Name:** Ashbourne Baseball Club
- **Sport:** Baseball
- **Training Venue(s):** International Baseball Centre

Section 2 – Principles to safeguard children from harm

Ashbourne Baseball Club is committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults under the guidance of Baseball Ireland Safeguarding Policies, our volunteers working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within sport. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

- **Importance of Childhood** – The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in sport.
- **Needs of the Child** – All children's sport experiences should be guided by what is best for children. This means that adults should have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical and personal needs of young people.
- **Integrity in Relationships** – Adults interacting with children in sport are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play** – All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasised, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- **Quality Atmosphere and Ethos** – Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Competition** – Competition is an essential element of sport and should be encouraged in accordance with ability and age. A child centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place.
- **Equality** – All children should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.

SM

Section 3 – Risk Assessment

This **Ashbourne Baseball Club** Risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process documents required to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified (low, medium, high) and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Club and Coaching Practices			
Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified	Risk L, M, H	Action Required
Lack of coaching qualification.	Coach Standards Policy /Recruitment Process	M	Each team must have a certified coach. Coaching qualifications reviewed by club.
Supervision issues	Supervision policy	L	All games and trainings must be supervised by a vetted coach
Unauthorised photography & recording activities	Photography Recording policy	L	Club photographers must be vetted and take Safeguarding Course
Behavioural Issues	Code of Conduct / Safeguarding 1	L	
No guidance for away trips	Child Safeguarding Training.	L	Coaches cannot share rooms with players

Complaints & Discipline			
Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified	Risk L, M, H	Action Required
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	Complaints & Disciplinary procedure / Reporting procedures	M	Share safeguarding policy with parents
Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent	Complaints & Disciplinary procedure / Reporting procedures	M	Share safeguarding policy with parents
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	Complaints & Disciplinary procedure with escalation to NGB	L	Share safeguarding policy with parents

SM

Reporting Procedures			
Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified	Risk L, M, H	Action Required
Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures	Reporting procedures / Code of Conduct/Safeguarding Training	M	DLP and CSO take necessary courses
No Designated Liaison Person appointed	Reporting procedures	L	Club has 2 DLP
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	Reporting procedures/ Child Safeguarding Training – L1	M	All coaches, club officials take Safeguarding course.
Not clear who young people should talk to or report to	Post the names of Club Safeguarding Officer/ Designated Liaison Person	L	Post details of CSO/DLP on website and in coffee dock.

Use of Facilities			
Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified	Risk L, M, H	Action Required
Unauthorised access to designated play & practice areas	Codes of Conduct/ Safeguarding Training	L	Only designated coaches and volunteers allowed on field
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	Photography Recording policy	L	Club has no changing areas. Toilets have locks.
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g., dressing room, showers etc.	Safeguarding policy	L	Club has no dressing rooms.

Recruitment			
Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified	Risk L, M, H	Action Required
Recruitment of inappropriate people	Recruitment policy/Safeguarding Policy	M	All club officials and coaches must be vetted.
Lack of clarity on roles	Recruitment policy/Role descriptors	M	CSO/DLP must take necessary safeguarding courses
Unqualified or untrained people in role	Safeguarding policy/ Role Descriptors	M	CSO/DLP must take necessary safeguarding courses.

SM

General Risk of Harm			
Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified	Risk L, M, H	Action Required
Harm not being recognised	Safeguarding policy / Child Safeguarding Training	M	Coaches, club officials, CSO and DLP must take safeguarding courses.
Harm caused by: Child to Child Coach to Child Volunteer to Child Member to Child Visitor to Child	Safeguarding policy / Safeguarding Training L1	L	Coaches, club officials, CSO and DLP must take safeguarding courses.
General behavioural issues	Code of Conduct	M	Incidents to be addressed by coaches
Issues of Bullying	Anti-Bullying policy/Code of conduct	M	Incidents to be addressed by coaches
Vetting of staff/volunteers	Recruitment policy / Vetting policy	L	All volunteers working with children must be vetted
Issues of Online Safety	Social Media policy	M	Electronic chat groups involving youth monitored by coaches.
Safety in Virtual Environments	Safeguarding Policy	M	Electronic chat groups involving youth monitored by coaches.

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on **25 May 2021**.

Section 4 – Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015 and in Northern Ireland the Club Framework for Safeguarding Standards in Sport. In addition to our Risk Assessment document, above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

Ashbourne Baseball Club has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by volunteers against young people availing of our activities.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of volunteers to work with young people in our activities.
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including identifying harm.
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.

SM

Please note that all procedures listed are available on request.

The Relevant Person for Ashbourne Baseball club is: **Samantha Cuddy**

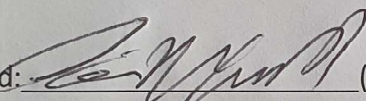
Section 5 – Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our Club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

Please note the following:

- That volunteers have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents / guardians and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed in a prominent place by **Ashbourne Baseball Club**

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on **30 April 2023**

Signed:  (President) Date: 22/5/22 (on behalf of **Ashbourne Baseball Club**)

Name: Samantha Cuddy Phone no: 0860 730 703
Print Name of Club Safeguarding Officer Club Safeguarding Officer

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact:

Samantha Cuddy
0860 730 703
Email: abcsafeguarding@gmail.com