



Aghaderg GAC & Ballyvarley HC



HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

HEALTH & SAFETY STATEMENT:

Aghaderg GAC & Ballyvarley HC are strongly committed to encouraging our members to take part, but the health, well-being and safety of each individual is always our paramount concern. We recommend levels of training dependent on age and ability and expect our players to participate within these boundaries.

To support our Health & Safety policy statement we are committed to the following duties:

- Undertake regular inspection of the club premises (or premises being used by the club) and all activities undertaken by the club
- Create a safe environment by putting health & safety measures in place
- Ensure that all members are given the appropriate level of training and competition by regularly assessing individual ability dependant on age, maturity and development
- Ensure that all members are aware of, understand and follow the club's health & safety policy
- Appoint a competent club member to assist with health and safety responsibilities
- Ensure that normal operating procedures and emergency operating procedures are in place and known by all members
- Provide access to adequate first aid facilities, telephone and qualified first aider at all times
- Report any injuries or accidents sustained during any club activity or whilst on the club premises.
- Ensure that the implementation of the policy is reviewed regularly and monitored for effectiveness.



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SUPERVISION (General Guidelines)

- Proper supervision of children within the club and with a satisfactory ratio of coaches to children. A **maximum** ratio of 1 coach : 6 children for under 6 age groups; 1 coach to 8 children for under 8 groups and 1 coach to 10 children will be adhered to years for children for over 10 years of age and over.
- Establish and maintain a coaching register
- Use of equipment only when supervised by a coach.
- Use of proper, recommended equipment including :
 - Sport specific guidelines
 - Identification markers/cones, clearly visible
 - Playing/coaching surfaces, free from debris
- Only children within same/similar age bands will be selected for team playing
- First aid will be available in event of an accident and at all training sessions and events
- All teams will be provided with a first aid kit
- All accidents will be recorded in an accident incident book(to be marked up at every relatively serious accident.)
- All accidents will be reported to parents at collection. (**see Guidelines for Reporting Accidents**)

Transport

- In the event of transport being required this will be provided and supervised by coaches/volunteers in possession of a driving licence and roadworthy vehicles only.
- Permission must be sought from parents prior to any transport being facilitated. Drivers will ensure the legal use of seatbelts
- Drivers will not carry more than the permitted number of passengers
- Drivers will avoid being alone with one passenger (**See policy on transporting children**).

The implementation of good and safe working practice is to develop the club in the short, medium and long term to the mutual benefit of the member, the local area and the community as a whole.



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Aghaderg GAC & Ballyvarley HC will ensure ...

- Appropriate public liability insurance will be in place to cover all adult and youth members
- Facilitation of open discussion on member protection issues.
- Support to members who report accusations of abuse (**see Guidelines on reporting concerns**)
- Suspected abuse information treated confidentially.
- Appropriate action is taken if members breach standards of reasonable behaviour.
- The designated officer has knowledge of statutory child protection procedures and their responsibility in reporting concerns from Co-operating to Safeguard Children DoH.
- That parents are kept informed, therefore parents should have access to the club's policy guidelines for away trips/overnights and Policy on the use of photography and video equipment

Aghaderg GAC & Ballyvarley HC has the right to:

- Expect all leaders to comply with its Code of Conduct.
- Expect all youth members to maintain standards of reasonable behaviour.
- Take appropriate action if members breach the Code of Conduct or Child Protection Policy.
- Expect all members to undertake appropriate training when advised to.
- Expect leaders will not abuse members physically, emotionally or sexually.
- Take appropriate action in the event of accusations.
- Acquire Access NI checks on all coaches/volunteers.

Maintain records on individuals in line with advice from the data protection agency i.e. only hold records on individuals that they have a justifiable reason for holding.



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CLUB MEMBERS HAVE A DUTY TO:

- Take reasonable care for your own health & safety and that of others who may be affected by what you do or not do
- Co-operate with the club on health & safety issues
- Correctly use all equipment provided by the club
- Not interfere with or misuse anything provided for your health, safety or welfare
- To report any concerns relating to Health & Safety issues

Emergency Action/First Aid

All coaches, leaders and members should be prepared with an action plan in the event of an emergency.

This will include:

- Access to First Aid equipment
- Telephone contact if the participant is a minor
- Telephone contact to the Emergency Services

Signed: _____ Date: _____ Chairman

Signed: _____ Date: _____ Secretary