



## **Child Protection Policy**

Oughterard Golf Club is totally committed to safeguarding the well being of all children and young people. We are committed to promoting the rights of the child including the participation of children and young people in matters that affect them. Oughterard Golf Club aims to provide a safe and healthy environment for the young people who visit our Club or attend the club for golf lessons, workshops or competitions and is committed at all times to ensuring their safety and welfare on the course either at lessons, whilst playing or whilst enjoying the courtesy of the clubhouse.

Communication: Adequate communication pathways will be applied to any allegations of incidents of child abuse. It must be made perfectly clear that any information that a child may say to a team leader / convenor must be treated as genuine and investigated fully by a child protection officer. Information should be kept strictly confidential on a “need to know” basis.

Training and awareness: All staff will be trained and made aware of this policy and how to be compliant with its requirements.

Induction: All Junior Golf Convenors will have a section in their induction pack containing details of the child protection policy and will be required to declare their knowledge of and adherence to the policy within. Equally, all children will be made aware of the existence of a Child Protection Policy.

Monitoring and supervision: Child protection will be monitored by a designated Child Protection Officer of the Club and reported on annually to the Management Committee with recommendations and improvements to be made.

Recording and Information Sharing: It must be made clear that whilst any information relating to a particular incident and/or event will be kept in strictest confidence, it may be necessary to reveal information to Management and the Child Protection Officer in order to further investigate other possible allegations observed and noted by administrative, Catering or Course Staff, Officers of the Club or electronic surveillance if present.

Recruitment and Vetting: All convenors and coaching staff will be required to complete a Garda Vetting registration vetting form upon their recruitment.

Managing allegations or incidents within the environs of the Club: The designated Child Protection Officer together with the Officers of the Management Committee shall be responsible for investigations into allegations or incidents in the Club environs.

---

Barbara Buckley, Hon. Secretary