

Child Safeguarding Statement Template

Section 1 – club information

Westmeath and District Motor Club provides motorsport events for young people.

Club details:

- Name: Westmeath and District Motor Club.
- Sport: Motorsport
- Location: Westmeath
- Size : 110
- No of Junior Members: 3-4

Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm

Westmeath and District Motor Club is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our NGB Motorsport Ireland's Safeguarding Policies our staff, both volunteers and employed, 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 & 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 an age appropriate manner. 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, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.

Section 3 - Risk Assessment

This *Westmeath and District Motor Club's* written 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 required to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
<p>Club Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Lack of coaching qualification. — Supervision issues. — Unauthorised photography & recording activities. — Behavioural Issues. — Lack of gender balance amongst coaches — No guidance for travelling & away trips — Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Not Applicable – No coaching provided — No junior present at events without guardian — MI Yearbook Appendix 123 Article 16 — Code of Conduct MI Yearbook Appendices 122 + 123. — Not Applicable – No coaching provided — MI Yearbook Appendix 123 Article 15 — MI Yearbook Appendices 122, 123 +126
<p>Complaints & Discipline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy. — Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent — Complaints not being dealt with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — MI Yearbook Appendices 122, 123 + 126 — General Competition Rules Chapter 16 — Contact Club Children's Officer Helena Flynn-Smith — MI Yearbook Appendices 122 + 123. — General Competition Rules Chapter 16

<p>Reporting Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures — No DLP appointed. — Concerns of abuse or harm not reported. — Not clear who YP should talk to or report to. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Club Children’s Officer: Helena Flynn-Smith Appendix 123 Article 20 — Name of Club Children’s Officer : Helena Flynn-Smith — Name of Club Children’s Officer: Helena Flynn-Smith — Name of Club Children’s Officer: Helena Flynn-Smith
<p>Use of Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Unauthorised access to designated children’s play & practice areas & to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc..... — Unauthorised exit from children’s areas. — Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas. — Missing or found child on site. — Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc... 	<p>Club has no property or clubhouse</p> <p>Guardians are responsible for and must accompany juniors at all times.</p>
<p>Recruitment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Recruitment of inappropriate people. — Lack of clarity on roles. — Unqualified or untrained people in role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Garda Vetting of Officials at U18’s disciplines — In MI Yearbook GCR Chapter 9 — Officials are trained and Garda Vetted

<p>Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors. — No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Behaviour to members of visitors. — Unauthorised photography & recording of activities. — Inappropriate use of social media & communications by under 18’s — Inappropriate use of social media & communications with under 18’s. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Child Safeguarding Statement on Notice Board at events and Web Site/Facebook — Child Safeguarding Statement on Notice Board at events and Web Site/Facebook — MI Yearbook Appendix 123 Article 16 — MI Yearbook Appendices 122, 123 + 126 — MI Yearbook Appendices 122, 123 + 126
<p>General Risk of Harm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Harm not being recognised. — Harm caused by: Child to Child. Coach to Child. Volunteer to Child. Member to Child. Visitor to Child. — General behavioural issues. — Vetting of volunteers. — Issues of Online Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — MI Yearbook Appendix 123 — MI Yearbook Appendix 123 — MI Yearbook Appendices 122+123 Code of Conduct. — Officials Vetted for U18’s disciplines — MI Yearbook Appendix 126

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 13th June, 2019

Section 4 – Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, ([the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla’s Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice](#)) In addition to our Risk Assessment document described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

Westmeath and District Motor 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 a child availing of our activities – In MI Yearbook Appendix 123 Article 20
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm – Courses available from Local Sports Partnership
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities – In MI Yearbook Appendix 123 Article 20

The Mandated/Relevant Person for NGB is Audrey Dunne

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:

- This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed in a prominent place by the Club – On notice board at events and/or website/facebook page

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on **10th June, 2021.**

Signed:

Date: 13th June, 2019

(On behalf of the *Club – this is the Provider*)

Name: Helena Flynn-Smith

Phone no: 086 8308804

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact **Phelim Martin or Helena Flynn Smith**