



# **Child Safeguarding Safety Statement**

## **Section 1 – Club Information**

Kilkenny Spartans Volleyball Club is a non-profit organisation, and run exclusively by volunteers. As a volleyball club, we provide sporting activities for children age 9 + and for adults.

Name: Kilkenny Spartans Volleyball Club

Sport: Volleyball

Location(S): The Watershed, Bohernatounish Rd, Gallows Hill, Kilkenny & Loreto Secondary School, Granges Road, Kilkenny.

Activities: Junior Volleyball (Primary and Secondary School), Adult Volleyball (Men and Women Teams), Social Volley.

## **Section 2 – Principles to Safeguard Children from Harm**

We at Kilkenny Spartans VC are committed to good practice which protects children from harm. We recognise that children have the right to be safe. All coaches will ensure that this fundamental principle takes precedence over all other considerations. Our staff and volunteers accept and recognise their responsibility to provide an environment which promotes the safety of the child at all times.

To achieve this we will:


- Develop an awareness of the issues which may lead to children being harmed.
- Create an open environment by identifying a ‘Designated person’ to whom the children can turn to if they need to talk.
- Adopt child centred and democratic coaching styles.

- Adopt Safeguarding guidelines through Codes of Conduct for all adults working at the club. Adult workers include coaches, parents and volunteers.
- Ensure careful recruitment, selection and management procedures. These procedures will include regular support and supervision is provided to staff/volunteers.
- Ensure complaints, grievances and disciplinary procedures are included in our constitution.
- Share information about concerns with children and parents and others who need to know.
- Ensure good and safe working/playing practices.
- Keep Safeguarding policies under regular review (every 2 years minimum).


### Section 3 – Risk Assessment

Kilkenny Spartans VC 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 documents required to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified is contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified	Procedure in Place to Manage Risk Identified
<b>Club and Coaching Practices</b> 1. Lack of coaching qualification 2. Supervision issues. 3. Unauthorised photography & recording activities. 4. Behavioural issues. 5. Lack of gender balance amongst coaches 6. No guidance for travelling & away trips 7. Lack of adherence with misc. procedures in Safeguarding policy.	1. Coach education/recruitment policy 2. Supervision policy/Coach education policy 3. Photography & Use of images policy 4. Code of Conduct/Safeguarding 1/Complaints & Disciplinary Policy 5. Coach education policy/Supervision Policy 6. Travel & Overnight Trip Policy/Child Safeguarding Training. 7. Safeguarding policy/Complaints & Disciplinary Policy.
<b>Complaints &amp; Discipline</b> 1. Lack of awareness of a Complaint &	1. Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy/ communications procedure



<p>Disciplinary policy</p> <p>2. Difficulty in raising an issue by child and/or parent.</p> <p>3. Complaints not being dealt with seriously.</p>	<p>2.Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy/ communicat..... procedure</p> <p>3. Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy</p>
<p><b>Reporting Procedures</b></p> <p>1. Lack of knowledge of organisational &amp; statutory reporting procedures.</p> <p>2. No DLP appointed.</p> <p>3. Concerns of abuse or harm not reported.</p> <p>4. Not clear who you should talk to or report to.</p>	<p>1.Reporting procedures/policy/Coach Education policy/ Code of Conduct/Behaviour</p> <p>2.Reporting procedures/policy</p> <p>3.Reporting procedures/policy/Child Safeguarding Training level 1.</p> <p>4.Post the names of CCO,DLP and Mandated person.</p>
<p><b>Use of Facilities</b></p> <p>1. Unauthorised access to designated children's play &amp; practice areas &amp; changing rooms, showers, toilets etc...</p> <p>2. Unauthorised exit from children's areas.</p> <p>3. Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas.</p> <p>4. Missing or found child on site.</p> <p>5. Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing rooms, showers etc...</p>	<p>1.Supervision policy/Coach education</p> <p>2.Supervision policy/Coach Education</p> <p>3.Photography policy and use of devices in private zones</p> <p>4.Missing or found child policy</p> <p>5.Safeguarding policy</p>
<p><b>Recruitment</b></p> <p>1. Recruitment of inappropriate people.</p> <p>2. Lack of clarity on roles.</p> <p>3. Unqualified or untrained people.</p>	<p>1.Recruitment policy</p> <p>2.Recruitment policy</p> <p>3.Recruitment policy</p>
<p><b>Communications</b></p> <p>1. Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors.</p> <p>2. No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Behaviour to members and visitors</p>	<p>1.Child Safeguarding Statement/Training policy</p> <p>2. Display Child Safeguarding Statement &amp; distribute code of Behaviour.</p> <p>3.Photography &amp; use of images policy</p> <p>4.Communication policy/Code of Conduct</p>



3. Unauthorised photography & recording of activities. 4. Inappropriate use of social media & communications with under 18's.	
<b>General Risk of Harm</b> 1. Harm not being recognised. 2. Harm cause by: - Child to Child - Coach to Child - Volunteer to Child - Member to Child - Visitor to Child 3. General behavioural issues. 4. Issues of Bullying 5. Vetting of staff/volunteers. 6. Issues of Online Safety	1.Safeguarding policy/Child Safeguarding Training 2.Safeguarding policy/Child Safeguarding Training 3.Code of Conduct 4.Anti-Bullying policy 5.Recruitment policy/Vetting policy 6.Social Media/Online Safety Policy


The risk assessment was undertaken on 01.01.2023

## 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 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.

Kilkenny Spartans VC has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

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

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- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the service who are mandated persons.
  - Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

*Please note that all procedure listed are available on request.*

The Mandated/Relevant Person for Volleyball Ireland is Conor Flood.

## **Section 5 – Implementation**

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Kilkenny Spartans VC 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 all volunteers, members, players and coaches have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- The statement is available to parents/guardians, the agency and members of the public on request.
- The statement is displayed in a prominent place by Kilkenny Spartans VC.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 1/09/2024

Signed:

Date: 02/01/2023

Name: Agnieszka Wala

Phone no: 089 600 0580

KSVC DLP

Signed:

Date: 02/01/2023

Name: Joanna Pabian

KSVC Chairperson

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact Agnieszka Wala or Ruth Baez.