

Belpark Juniors Introductory Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On behalf of Belpark Triathlon Club, I would like to welcome your child to the club and provide you with some information about our activities. The club provides opportunities for young people between the ages of 5 and 18 to receive coaching and competition in various duathlon, aquathlon and triathlon sessions during the year. All coaching is by qualified coaches who are trained and have been screened for their suitability for working with young people. You can contact our Head Juniors Coach, Phil Smith, with any questions on the coaching activities at juniors@belparktri.ie.

As a sports club, we are committed to providing high quality standards for all participants in relation to effective management, quality coaching and competition, and safety in sport. Our Welfare Officer, Ian Clarke, is responsible for ensuring that our safeguarding policy is implemented and can be contacted on welfare@belparktri.ie should you have any concerns.

We welcome parents to all training and competitions and value your support. We are keen to involve parents in the club and would encourage you to come along with your child to any of our sessions and events.

For running sessions, if your child is not already involved in a running club we suggest Rathfarnham WSAF Athletics Club. For swimming sessions, if your child is not already involved in a swimming club, we run dedicated Juniors lanes at our sessions in Terenure on Wednesdays (year round) and Balrothery on Sundays (outside race season). These can be booked in the Member Zone on our website.

During the year, we arrange brick (run/cycle) sessions at Corkagh Park and other venues. Belpark Juniors also have the option to join junior training sessions run by other clubs in the Dublin area. Dates will be advised in advance and published on the website, and you can also request to be added to Belpark Junior Parents WhatsApp group for reminders and immediate notification of info and events. It is up to parents/guardians to make arrangement for your child to travel to and from training sessions and events. We appreciate it if children can arrive promptly and are collected promptly at the end of the session.

For racing, we run two Junior Duathlons in the Phoenix Park (June and July). We also select and promote Junior events run by TI and other Triathlon clubs during the year.

Membership fees and links are on the Triathlon Ireland website:

<https://www.triathlonireland.com/Get-Involved/Become-A-Member/>

Membership of Triathlon Ireland is compulsory even if only training with the club for insurance reasons. If not a member of TI yourself, you will need to register as a site user (free) in order for your child to sign up. Don't forget to select Belpark as your child's club during this process, and when complete please let us know directly at juniors@belparktri.ie as it sometimes takes a little while for information to filter back from TI.

You will also need to read, sign and return the Parental Consent form available on our Juniors page, and any other code of conduct forms that may periodically be required. This is part of the club's commitment to provide a positive learning environment for your young people and coaches/volunteers representing the club have agreed to similar codes committing them to the values of this club. For the safety of your child it is important that the club is informed of any medical condition or allergies that may be relevant should your child fall ill or be involved in an accident while at the club.

If you would like to talk to someone at the club about this information or your child's involvement with the club, please contact the Head Juniors Coach or Welfare Officer at the emails given above. We thank you for your cooperation and look forward to meeting you at some point in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Phil Smith, Head Juniors Coach
Ian Clarke, Welfare Officer