

Belpark Triathlon Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy Statement

To ensure that best practise is being followed, Belpark Triathlon Club will work closely with Triathlon Ireland. In order to promote the best practice in children's sport, we shall comply with the guidelines of the Code of Ethics and Good Practise for Children's Sports; which are:

1. Adopt and implement the Code of Ethics and Good Practise for Children's Sport as an integral part of its policy on children in the club
2. Have its constitution approved and adopted by club members at an EGM or AGM.
3. Promote the voice of the child, in particular through meetings and the AGM. One parent/guardian should have one vote for all their children less than 18 years of age, where relevant
4. Ensure that the Club Management Committee is elected or endorsed by a registered club member at each AGM
5. Adopt and consistently apply a safe and clearly defined method of recruiting and selecting Sports Leaders
6. Clearly define the role of committee members, all Sports Leaders and parents/guardians
7. Appoint at least one Children's Officer. In the event that a club caters for both boys and girls, one Children's Officer of each gender would ideally be appointed
8. Have a Designated Person to act as liaison with the Statutory Authorities in relation to the reporting of allegations or suspicions of child abuse. Any such reports should be made according to the procedures outlines in this Code
9. Ensure best practice throughout the club by disseminating its code of conduct, including the disciplinary, complaints and appeals procedures in operation within the club to all its members. The club's code of conduct should also be posted in all facilities used by the club
10. Have in place procedures for dealing with a concern or complaint made to the Statutory Authorities against a committee member or Sports Leader or other members of the club. Regulations should stipulate that a Sports Leader who is subject of an allegation, which has been reported to the Statutory Authorities, should stand aside, while the matter is being examined, s/he should be invited to resume full duties when and if appropriate internal disciplinary procedures are completed
11. Ensure that relevant Sports Leaders report to the Youth Sub Committee on a regular basis
12. Encourage regular turnover of Youth Committee Membership while ensuring continuity and experience

13. Develop effective procedures for responding to and recording accidents
14. Ensure that any unusual activity (high rate of dropout, transfers, etc.) is checked out and reported by the Club's Chairperson to Triathlon Ireland
15. Ensure that all club members are given adequate notice of AGMs and other meetings
16. Ensure that all minutes of all meetings (AGMs/EGMs/, Committee) are recorded and safely filed

In accordance with our club constitution (Section 7), Belpark Triathlon Club fully subscribes to Article 19 of The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: "Children have the right to be protected from all forms of violence; they must be kept safe from harm, and they must be given proper care by those looking after them".

In order to ensure that Belpark Triathlon Club endeavours to provide a safe and fun environment for all people taking part in youth activities and events, it is paramount that we adhere to Triathlon Ireland's policies relating to all aspects of child protection. This includes all relevant policies that have been put at international and national levels.

Importantly, all individuals that participate in the club's youth activities and or events will be Garda vetted through Triathlon Ireland and will complete the ***Code of Ethics & Good Practice for Children's Sport Basic Awareness Training*** through a recognised local sports partnership. Additionally, these individuals are responsible for familiarising themselves with all relevant policies and procedures relating to child protection. These policies and procedures can be accessed at: www.triathlonireland.com/Resources/Safeguarding/

The club's Children's Officer should be able to guide individuals through the policies or liaise with TI should queries arise.

In order to ensure a safe and fun environment, a Junior subcommittee will be established and will directly make decisions based on the best interests of the club regarding all youth activities and events.

The Junior Sub-Committee has the authority to amend, draft and or implement any club policies and or procedures regarding child protection in accordance with international and national law and in the best interest of Belpark Triathlon Club without the need of an AGM/EGM.

Revised 13March2016