



Safeguarding Training Policy for Gaelic Games

This policy is part of the Safeguarding Statement for Gaelic Games under the *Children First Act 2015*, *Children's First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017)*, *the Children (NI) Order 1995*, *Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy and Procedures and Practice* and as required by our Association Rules.

It is highlighted in Section 11(3) Children First as being mandatory and is required for whatever the level of child safeguarding engagement one has in the Association. While we previously maintained this level of training as part of our good practice standards, and included it as part of basic coaching qualification requirements, safeguarding training is now mandatory in law. A list of typical roles to attend training appropriate to their role is included at the end of this policy.

Different levels of Child Safeguarding Training (see below) are now in place in Gaelic Games. Attendance at any of the workshops obviously depends on the role an individual has in any of our Associations. Training is delivered in workshop format and all workshops are of three hours duration unless specified otherwise below.

Online Gaelic Games safeguarding training shall be permitted under the direction of the Safeguarding Training Committee as a contingency measure during the Covid 19 restrictions and subject to review thereafter.

This policy sets out the accepted Safeguarding Workshops for all Gaelic Games Associations together with any specific requirements for attendance and renewal of certification.

Renewing Safeguarding certificates

Safeguarding training requires renewal **every 3 years** unless specified below.

N.B. If you do not hold a *valid safeguarding training certificate, you cannot continue in your role until you refresh your training.

The Club & individual are both responsible to ensure that appropriate training has been completed and is valid.

**Valid certificate* refers to a Gaelic Games certificate issued in respect of attendance at a Child Protection in Sport (Safeguarding 1) programme or the Sport Ireland or Sport NI equivalent certificate or the certificate issued following satisfactory completion of the Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 Online Refresher programme.

All Safeguarding certificates 1,2 and 3, are valid for a maximum of three years.

Roles that require safeguarding training

Role	Safeguarding 1 Child Protection in Sport Awareness Workshop)	Safeguarding 1 E-learning Module (refresher only)	Safeguarding 2 (Children's Officer Workshop)	Safeguarding 3 (Designated Liaison Person Workshop)	Cul Camp Assistant	Referees Workshop
Team Management & Backroom	√	√				
Committee Member	√	√				
Designated Liaison Person/Deputy DLP/ Chairperson	√	√	√ (optional)	√		
Club Children's Officer	√	√	√	√ (optional)		
Staff	√	√				
Mandated Person	√	√		√		
Scor/Cultural	√	√				
Code of Behaviour Hearings Committee	√	√				
First Aiders	√	√				
Other Volunteers	√ (optional)					
Parent	√ (optional)					
Referee						√
Cul Camp Assistant					√	

Gaelic Games accepted Workshops

Gaelic Games Safeguarding Workshops are outlined as follows

- **Safeguarding 1 – Child Protection in Sport Awareness Workshop (attending face to face workshop with qualified Gaelic Games tutor or online training at the discretion of the Child Safeguarding Committee)**

Outcomes from Safeguarding 1

- Implement best practice in protecting the welfare of participants through our Code of Behaviour (underage)
- Create a child-centred environment within the Club
- List categories of abuse and indicators associated with abuse
- Make a report to the appropriate Statutory Authority
- Make a report to a Designated Liaison Person, and or Association's Mandated Person

Certification validation period = within a 3 year period

Prerequisite: Participants must be nominated by the club to attend the training. Any participant aged 16-18 years of age must submit a parental consent form prior to attending the workshop

Renewal: Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 certificate may be renewed by completing;

Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 (face to face workshop with qualified Gaelic Games tutor)

Or

Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 Online Refresher (e-learning module – see next)

- **Safeguarding 1 Online Refresher (e-learning module)**

Prerequisite: Valid Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 certificate or a Safeguarding 1 Sport Ireland or Sport Northern Ireland certificate

Certification Validation period = within a 3 year period

Required attendees: any person having completed the Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1, any person who has attended an LSP or other Sports NGB's safeguarding training and any person who has attended the Sport Northern Ireland Safeguarding 1 training but who has not attended the Gaelic Games Associations equivalent within the last **3 Years**

Renewal: Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 Online Refresher certificate **may only** be renewed by attendance at a Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 workshop

Link for e-learning module; <https://learning.gaa.ie/safeguarding>

Advanced Safeguarding Workshops – Role specific are outlined as follows;

▪ **Safeguarding 2 (Club Children’s Officer Workshop – face to face with qualified Gaelic Games tutor)**

Outcomes from Safeguarding 2:

- Implement best practice in protecting the welfare of underage players
- Create a child-centred environment within the club
- Understanding and awareness of Gaelic Games Child Safeguarding Structures
- Reflect on the Club Children’s Officer role & develop an action plan
- Understand how to communicate with young people
- Deal with Code of Behaviour (Underage), breaches and manage Safeguarding issues

Prerequisite: Valid Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1/Safeguarding 1 Refresher certificate

Validation period = 3 Years

Renewal: Safeguarding 2 certificate may only be renewed by attendance at Gaelic Games Safeguarding 2 CCO face to face workshop with qualified Gaelic Games tutor).

▪ **Safeguarding 3 (Designated Liaison Person Workshop – face to face with qualified Gaelic Games tutor)**

Outcomes of Safeguarding 3:

- Awareness of Legislation
- Understanding and awareness of Gaelic Games Child Safeguarding Structures
- Understanding of your role as Designated Liaison Person
- Understanding of dealing with Allegations & Concerns of Abuse
- Understanding and awareness of communications with Parents/Agencies as appropriate
- Understanding and awareness of reporting Procedures

Prerequisite: Valid Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 or valid Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 Refresher certificate

Certificate Validation period = within a 3 year period

Renewal: Safeguarding 3 may only be renewed by attendance at Gaelic Games Safeguarding 3 (face to face workshop with qualified Gaelic Games tutor)

▪ **Additional Training**

Cul Camp Assistant Safeguarding Training

Prerequisite: Nil

Validation period = 1 year

Mandatory attendees: person appointed to role of Cul Camp Assistant.

Renewal: If in the role of Camp Assistant in a different calendar year, the workshop must be repeated

N.B. This programme does not replace Safeguarding 1 (i.e. if a Cul Camp Assistant becomes a Coach working with children in any of our Associations S1 must be completed)

Referee Safeguarding Training

Prerequisite: Nil

Duration of Workshop: It is a module built in as part of training for referees

Expected attendees: any person taking on the role of a referee (excluding young whistlers who are under 16)

Renewal: N/A

Footnotes: Notwithstanding the mandatory requirement on participants to attend the Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 workshop.

1. *It is the responsibility of the individual and club to ensure that anyone working with, or who has interaction with, or who is involved in the planning/administration of activities or events with children and young people in our Associations, holds a valid Gaelic Games Safeguarding 1 certificate.*
2. *If a member of any Gaelic Games Associations presents a certificate of attendance from Sport Ireland such as attendance at an LSP or other Sports NGB's safeguarding training or a Sport Northern Ireland Safeguarding 1 workshop our member will be obliged to complete the Gaelic Games Online Safeguarding Refresher prior to commencing their role with the relevant Gaelic Games Association. The purpose of this is to ensure that those who work with children and young people receive relevant information on our own Gaelic Games safeguarding policies or practices, or our reporting procedures or our Code structures and on the role of Gaelic Games Children's Officers and DLPs in our three Associations.*
3. *Our Children's Officers and our Designated Liaison Persons in our three Associations are required to attend the relevant Gaelic Games workshop in order to receive information specific to their role as Gaelic Games Children's Officers and DLPs in our Associations and in order to be fully appraised on our own Gaelic Games safeguarding policies or practices, or our reporting procedures and our Code structures.*

Should a Gaelic Games Children's Officer or Designated Liaison Person present with a certificate of attendance from an LSP or a Sports NGB Safeguarding 2 (Children's Officer) or Safeguarding 3 (DLP) workshop, that is within the three years recognition period, and the individual has yet to attend the Gaelic Games Associations S2 or S3 workshop, their Club shall accept this certificate and permit the relevant Officer to carry out their role as per organisational requirements.

Children's Officers and or Designated Liaison Persons who present with a S2/S3 certificate of attendance from an LSP or a Sports NGB shall subsequently be required to attend a Gaelic Games Associations Safeguarding 2 or Safeguarding 3 workshop by agreement with their Club Executive”.

4. *Validation period commences from the date of workshop completion/date of certificate.*