



Child Safeguarding Statement

Fencing Ireland provides various sporting activities and opportunities for young people through participation in clubs, events and national teams, both on a national and international level.

Fencing Ireland is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our 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.

Fencing Ireland'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 documents require to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified are contained in the following categories: Club and Coaching Practices; Complaints & Discipline; Reporting Procedures; Use of Facilities; Recruitment; Communications; and General Risk of Harm.

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on *30th December 2021*.

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.

Fencing Ireland 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
- Requirement for child safeguarding training to be undertaken by staff working with young persons, and access to child safeguarding information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities

The National Children's Officer for *Fencing Ireland* is *Ursula Kappus*.

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. This organisation 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.



This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in January 2023.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Des Gilhooly", written over a faint line.

Date: 11/01/2022

(On behalf of *Fencing Ireland*)

Name: Desmond Gilhooly, Chairperson

Phone no: 087 678 3915

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact the National Children's Officer.