



## **Code of Best practice for youth sport – Doire Colmcille CLG**

It is an underlying core principle within the Doire Colmcille CLG Youth Development Programme that the dignity and rights of all our young members will be valued and protected. Their personal dignity and physical integrity are paramount and participation in sport should enhance development, improve social skills and most importantly increase enjoyment.

Doire Colmcille CLG implements a Fair Play – ‘fir fer/cothrom na feinne’ policy designed to ensure our Youth Development Programme creates a positive environment for self expression and personal development in each and every young person.

### **Fair Play Principles**

1. Young people should play for the fun of it
2. All young people will be treated equally and fairly
3. Participation will be used to develop all aspects of physical, psychological, social and moral well being
4. Players first – Winning Second. Participation will be encouraged in all young people. Competition will be used as a positive tool for development of true potential, however playing will come first at all times.

### **Role Of Doire Colmcille**

Doire Colmcille CLG undertakes to provide an environment of mutual respect, dignity and education through the provision of sporting excellence. Doire Colmcille CLG aims to fulfil this objective utilising coaching personnel suitably qualified in the delivery of Gaelic football skills and also in the protection of the young people it serves.

Doire Colmcille CLG will maintain records of training qualifications and will actively encourage all coaching personnel to further develop their coaching attributes via structured training courses. Doire Colmcille CLG will in addition maintain a register



of coaching personnel who have completed a Child Protection course as administrated through Cumann Luthchleas Gael Child Protection officers.

It will be standard practice to inform parents/guardians of alcohol or illicit drug incidents concerning their son/daughter. Parents will be invited to discuss incident and will be duly informed of course of action to be taken.

All incidents (safety, abuse etc) will be recorded and documented appropriately and any breach of this policy will be referred to the Chairman. This will in turn be referred to the Executive Committee of Doire Colmcille CLG for further action.

### **Role of Coaches/Mentors**

Coaches will be expected to:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person, and treat each one equally without prejudice.
- Ensure that neither themselves, nor anyone else involved with the team, use foul and abusive language to another team member, nor, engages in any other aggressive/threatening or abusive behaviour.
- Maintain a positive environment during coaching sessions.
- Recognise the development needs of young players and cater for these needs on an individual or team basis.
- Be punctual and in appropriate attire. The use of alcohol or any other substance is strictly forbidden in the presence of young people.
- Plan and prepare each session in advance and ensure adequate supervision is available at all times.
- Ensure that neither physical force nor corporal punishment is, under any circumstances, administered to any young member.
- Never have a situation whereby they are alone in a car/dressing room or anywhere else with a young person. The use of hired transportation will be used for all away trips.



- Ensure the safety and wellbeing of each young person, with safety being of paramount importance.

### **Role of the Parent/Guardian**

Parents/Guardians will be expected to:

- Attend games on a regular basis, showing support for the team and for the club.
- Show approval for effort and commitment and not just for results.
- Seek to identify improvement opportunities and not criticise playing performances.
- Realise the power of example and never make promises that can't be kept.

### **Role Of Young people**

Young people will be expected to:

- Play fairly, contribute honestly and, most importantly, enjoy themselves.
- Represent Doire Colmcille CLG and their family with pride and dignity.
- Shake hands before and after each game, regardless of result
- Respect Club and match officials and accept their decisions gracefully.
- Respect fellow team members, and never use foul/abusive or derogatory language to anyone else involved with the team or the Club.
- Always let the coach/mentor aware of inability to attend games or training in advance.