



Foynes Yacht Club

Safeguarding Policy

Foynes Yacht Club has fully adopted the “Code of Ethics & Good Practice for Children’s Sport” of the Irish Sports Council in its running of all youth activity in the club. The Sailing Academy Principal, the Commodore and the Senior Instructor are all familiar with its contents. A copy of the Code of Ethics is held in the Sailing Academy administration office and instructors and volunteers are made aware of the club’s policy towards compliance at all time with this excellent guidance document.

The Club Children’s Officer has been fully and formally trained for this role. The Club Children’s Officer advises the Sailing Academy Principal, the Commodore and the Senior Instructor on achieving best practice in the management of training activities.

Instructors and volunteers working with children are clearly informed that all suspected or actual statutory abuse or incidents of poor practice in this regard is to be reported to the Club Children’s Officer. S/he is fully trained to deal with these matters in a proper fashion.

Good Practice Guidelines for FYC

The following guidelines are intended to eliminate the incidence for abuse of children and help to protect staff and volunteers from false allegations being made by promoting good practice.

- Do not spend excessive amounts of time alone with children away from others.
- Do not take children alone in a car on journeys, however short.
- Do not take children to your home.
- Where any of these are unavoidable, ensure they only occur with the full knowledge and consent of someone in charge in the organisation or the child’s parents.
- Design training programmes that are not within the ability of the individual child.

You should never:

- Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games, including horseplay.
- Allow or engage in inappropriate touching of any form.
- Allow children to use inappropriate language unchallenged.
- Make sexually suggestive comments to a child, even in fun.
- Let allegations a child makes go unchallenged or unrecorded; always report such allegations or any observations of inappropriate behaviour to the Club Children’s Officer.
- Do things of a personal nature that children can do for themselves.

However, it may be sometimes necessary for staff or volunteers to do things of a personal nature for children, particularly if they are very young or disabled. These tasks should only be carried out with the full understanding and consent of parents. In an emergency situation, which requires this type of help, parents and the Club Children’s Officer should be fully informed. In such situations, it is important to ensure that all adults are sensitive to the child and undertake personal care tasks with the utmost discretion.



In addition, medical consent should be obtained in the event where medication or treatment is required to be administered in the absence of the parent / guardian; this includes hospitalisation.

The use of photographic or recording equipment is no allowed in changing areas. Signed photography consent must be received by parents/guardians for use of photography of children on FYC promotional material including Facebook, website or other electronic or printed publications. If referencing a child first names only will be used. Children must be suitably dressed.