



Cobh Ramblers FC

St Colmans Park

Cobh, Co Cork

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CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE

The below statement is set out in accordance with the FAI Rulebook, FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy as well as our legislative requirements set out by Children First Act 2015. This statement is binding on all staff and club members.

Cobh Ramblers Football Club provides various sporting opportunities for young people through participation in our national league teams and various local events. Cobh Ramblers Football Club is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of safeguarding policies and procedures. Our staff working throughout the organisation are committed to providing a safe and fun environment for our young people to develop.

Principles to Safeguard Children from Harm

This statement recognises that in accordance with legislation and the requirements of the FAI Rulebook, FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy, other FAI policies and procedures that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances.

Cobh Ramblers Football Club is established on several core principles: the needs of the child, integrity and respect, environment, equality, fair play, welfare and safety in football. These underlying principles underpin our rules, policies, and procedures to ensure when Children participating in our activities, they do so, as far as is practicable, in a safe and enjoyable environment.

Risk Assessment:

In preparing this statement Cobh Ramblers Football Club have completed a risk assessment of the potential risk of harm to children when they are participating in any of our games and attending our activities. The risks were reviewed under the following headings: Club and Coaching Practices; Complaints & Discipline; Reporting Procedures; Use of Facilities; Recruitment; Communications; and General Risk of Harm.

The Risk Assessment was first undertaken on March 30th, 2020, and reviewed most recently on **April 20th 2023**. Cobh Ramblers Football Club Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, The Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017), and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice.

Cobh Ramblers Football Club 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 and selection of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities.**
- **Procedures for the provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.**
- **Procedures for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.**
- **Procedures for maintaining a list of the persons in the relevant service who are mandated.**
- **Procedure for appointing a relevant person.**

All procedures/policies listed are available on request.

The Designated Liaison person is Michael O'Donovan. (085 708 0330)

The Club's Children Officer is Maura Field. (087 122 8114)

Cobh Ramblers recognise the implementation is an ongoing process. Our Football Club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the accompanying child welfare and safeguarding policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while participating in our activities.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed on April 20th 2023 or as soon as is practicable after there has been material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

This statement has been published on Cobh Ramblers website www.cobhramblers.ie and displayed in a prominent place on the premises.

It has been provided to all staff, volunteers and any other persons involved with the service. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request.

A copy of this statement will be made available to Tusla and members of the public if requested.