



Child Safeguarding Policy

Leinster Cricket Club Youth Section

Please note that by joining or renewing membership of the club all parents/guardians and their child/children are deemed to accept and will abide by the Child Safeguarding Policy

Date 03/03/2018

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1. Leinster Cricket Club Child Safeguarding Statement - March 2018 – Cricket Section

Leinster Cricket Club provides sporting activities and opportunities for children and young people and is committed to safeguarding children and young people. All our volunteers and staff working with children throughout the organisation seek to create a safe environment for children and young people to participate in cricket.

Leinster Cricket Club's Safeguarding Risk Assessment indicated the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gave the required policy, guidance or process documents required to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified is contained in the following categories: Child Protection Awareness, Youth Supervision, Transport/Travel to and from matches, Communication, Participation of Children in Adult competition and Discipline.

Leinster Cricket Club's 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 participating in our activities.

Leinster Cricket Club has the following procedures in place:

- 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
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to the Statutory Authorities.

The Mandated Person/Designated Liaison Officer for Leinster Cricket Club is Niall Carroll, phone: +353-1-4972428

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. We are 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 services. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually.

Leinster Cricket Club Hon Secretary:

Name: Catherine Clarke

Signed: *Catherine Clarke*

Date: 8.3.2018

For any queries about this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact the relevant Children's Officer.

2. LCC Child Safeguarding Policy

	Activity		Control Procedure
1.	Child protection awareness.	1.1	<p>The Child Safeguarding Statement is displayed outside club office and on the club website.</p> <p>The club has appointed a Designated Liaison Officer, Niall Carroll 01 4972428 and two Children’s Officers, Conal Cassidy 087 2551147 and Mary McMahon 087 2868417.</p> <p>All adults involved in youth cricket must complete accredited child protection training prior to any involvement within the club and provide evidence to the Secretary of the Youth Committee.</p> <p>The Child Safeguarding Policy must be signed by all adults involved in youth cricket at the start of each season. See Guidelines for Sport Leaders and Sport Leaders’ Code of Conduct – Appendix 1.</p> <p>A copy of the Child Safeguarding Policy is provided for new members and existing members upon renewal of subscription; parents/guardians must sign to acknowledge receipt. See Guidelines for Parents and Parental Code of Conduct - Appendix 2, Young Players’ Code of Conduct -Appendix 3 and Anti-Bullying Policy – Appendix 4.</p>
		1.2	Reporting procedure re abuse or harm is contained in Appendix 5 - Child Welfare and Protection Procedures.
		1.3	The Club adheres to the ICC Europe / ECB Safety Regulations applicable to Young Players – see Appendix 9.
2.	Youth Supervision	2.1	<p>All adults involved in youth cricket (including captains of men’s and women’s teams) are required to undergo Garda Vetting with copy GV certificates provided to the Secretary of the Youth Committee – Appendix 1.</p> <p>Any issues that may arise through GV shall be notified to the Club Executive for review.</p> <p>The Club recruitment policy requires references to be obtained where a person new to the Club wishes to get involved as a Sports Leader.</p>
		2.2	<p>Identifiable coaching tops are provided by the Club to all vetted coaches.</p> <p>All vetted coaches must wear LCC coaching tops during training/matches.</p> <p>See Appendix 1.</p>
		2.3	Parental Code of Conduct – Appendix 2 – includes a late collection policy.
		2.4	Policy re physical contact is contained in the Guidelines for Sports Leaders – Appendix 1.
		2.5	Policy re isolation of child during an event is contained in the Guidelines for Sports Leaders – Appendix 1.

		2.6	It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that the child does not leave the ground during activities – see Parental Code of Conduct – Appendix 2.
3.	Transport/Travel	3.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is not the responsibility of the coach or team manager to transport or arrange transport of children to and from matches 2. Fixture lists will be distributed at the start of the season so that parents can make appropriate arrangements 3. Pick up and drop off points are notified to parents. <p>The importance of punctuality is emphasised due to difficulties caused by late collection of children.</p>
4.	Communication	4.1	The Club has a Communication/E-technology Policy – See Appendix 6.
		4.2	Photography is governed by the Club’s Communication and E Technology Policy - see Appendix 6.
5.	Participation of children in adult competitions	5.1	The Men’s & Women’s sections’ policies concerning participation of children in adult competitions, physical contact, supervision, transport and communication are contained in Appendix 7.
6.	Discipline	6.1	The Disciplinary Process is included in Appendix 8 of the Child Safeguarding Policy.

3. LCC Youth Committee Policy Statement

It is a challenge for LCC Youth Section to structure activities for young people so that we cater for their needs and strike a balance between the desires to win and the right of all to participate irrespective of ability, race, gender, disability, sexual orientation etc. However, the way we work with children, how we behave around them and our attitude towards them will contribute to the way young people feel about themselves.

LCC Youth Section is fully committed to safeguarding the well-being of its members. Every individual in the section should, at all times, show respect and understanding for members' rights, safety and welfare and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the club.

LCC Youth Section wishes to provide the best environment for all young people involved in cricket. Young people deserve to be given enjoyable, safe sporting opportunities, free of abuse of any kind. These participants have rights, which must be respected, and responsibilities that they must accept. Young people should be encouraged to realise that they have responsibilities to treat other participants and sports leaders with fairness and respect.

LCC Youth Section is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of all its members including children as set out in the Children First Act 2015.

LCC Youth Section supports best practice as set out in the "Code of Ethics and Good Practise for Children's Sport" published by the Irish Sports Council (2006).

LCC Youth Section acting through its Designated Liaison Officer, Children's Officers, Committees and Sub Committees shall take all reasonable steps to ensure compliance with the Code.

4. Core Values in Sport for Young People

The work of Leinster Cricket Club Youth Section (“LCC Youth Section”) is based on the following principles that will guide the development of sport for young people. Young people’s experience of sport should be guided by what is best for the young person. The stages of development and the ability of the young person should guide the types of activity provided within the organization.

Integrity in relationships

Adults interacting with young people in sport should do so with integrity and respect for the child. All adult actions in sport should be guided by what is best for the child and verbal, physical, emotional, cyber bullying or sexual abuse of any kind are unacceptable within cricket.

Fair Play

Fair play is the guiding principle of the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport. All children’s sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. Fair play incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always playing with the right spirit. Fair play is defined as a way of thinking, not just behaving.

Quality atmosphere and ethos

Cricket for young people should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere. Standards of behaviours for leaders and children in cricket are as important as standards set for sports performance. Standards of excellence extend to personal conduct.

Competition

A balanced approach to competition can make a significant contribution to the development of young people, while at the same time providing fun, enjoyment and satisfaction. Leaders should aim to put the welfare of the child first and competitive standards second. A child-centered approach will help to ensure that competition and specialization are kept in their appropriate place.

Equality

All children should be treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of age, ability, sex, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion. Children with disability should be involved in sports activities in an integrated way, thus allowing them to participate to their potential alongside other children, wherever possible.

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 1

a. Guidelines for Sports Leaders (Including Captains of Adult Teams)

Leaders in children's sport (including the captains of adult teams who field youth players) should strive to create a positive environment for the children in their care. They have an overall responsibility to take the necessary steps to ensure that positive and healthy experiences are provided.

LCC Youth Section recognises the key role Leaders (coaches, selectors and team managers, adult team captains, etc.) play in the lives of children in sport.

All Leaders should have as their first priority the children's safety and enjoyment of the sport and should adhere to the guidelines and regulations set out in the section's Child Safeguarding Policy. All adults involved in youth cricket must complete accredited child protection training prior to any involvement within the club and provide evidence to the Secretary of the Youth Committee. Child Safeguarding Policy to be signed by all adults involved in youth cricket at the start of each season.

Leaders must respect the rights, dignity and worth of every child and must treat everyone equally, regardless of sex, ethnic origin, religion or ability.

Leaders working with young people in Cricket should be suitable and appropriately qualified

There will be a 'sign-up' procedure, whereby the appointed/reappointed leaders agree to abide by the code of the Cricket Section.

Leaders will be given a copy of the Section's Child Safeguarding Policy and they should make themselves aware of the procedures contained within the Section's Policy.

Once appointed, the Leader must act as a role model and promote the positive aspects of sport and of Cricket and maintain the highest standards of personal conduct.

The use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco must be actively discouraged as being incompatible with a healthy approach to sporting activity.

Remember your behaviour to players, other officials, and opponents will have an effect on the players in your care.

Be generous with praise and never ridicule or shout at players for making mistakes or for losing a game. All young players are entitled to respect.

Be careful to avoid the "star system". Each child deserves equal time and attention.

Care must be taken not to expose a child intentionally or unintentionally to embarrassment or disparagement by use of sarcastic or flippant remarks about the child or his/her family.

Physical punishment or physical force must never be used. Never punish a mistake -by verbal means, physical means, or exclusion.

Insist that players in your care respect the rules of the game. Insist on fair play and ensure players are aware you will not tolerate cheating or bullying behaviour.

Remember that young players play for fun and enjoyment and that skill development and personal satisfaction have priority over highly structured competition. Never make winning the only objective.

Encourage the development of respect for opponents, officials, selectors and other coaches and avoid criticism of fellow coaches.

Leaders are responsible for setting and monitoring the boundaries between a working relationship and friendship with players. It is advisable for coaches not to involve young players in their personal life i.e. visits to coaches' homes or overnight stays.

Avoid working alone and ensure there is adequate supervision for all activities. It is important to realise that certain situations or friendly actions could be misinterpreted by the participant or by outsiders.

When approached to take on a new player, ensure that any previous coach-student relationship has been ended by the student/others in a professional manner.

Leaders who become aware of a conflict between their obligation to their players and their obligation to their governing body must make explicit the nature of the conflict and the loyalties and responsibilities involved, to all parties concerned.

Leaders should communicate and co-operate with medical and ancillary practitioners in the diagnosis, treatment and management of their players' medical or related problems. Avoid giving advice of a personal or medical nature if you are not qualified to do so. Any information of a personal or medical nature must be kept strictly confidential unless the welfare of the child requires the passing on of this information.

The nature of the relationship between leader and a participant can often mean that a leader will learn confidential information about a player or player's family. This information must be regarded as confidential and except where abuse is suspected, must not be divulged to a third party without the express permission of the player/family.

Set realistic goals for the participants and do not push young players. Create a safe and enjoyable environment.

It is the responsibility of the organising committee/coaches to ensure adequate supervision of children by trained/vetted adults at social events.

If the Men's or Women's captain is not involved in match day, then another vetted and child protection trained individual must be present for the duration of the match.

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 1

b. Sports Leaders' Code of Conduct

Leaders/Coaches should familiarise themselves with the Child Safeguarding Policy of LCC Youth Section and follow the procedures if they suspect or receive complaints of abuse of any sort.

Leaders should:

- Be positive during sessions, praise and encourage effort as well as results
- Plan and prepare appropriately
- Put the welfare of a young person first, strike a balance between this and winning / results
- Encourage fair play, treat participants equally
- Recognise developmental needs
- Be qualified and up-to-date with knowledge and skill of sport for young people
- Involve parents where possible and inform parents when problems arise
- Keep record of attendance at training
- Keep a brief record of injury and action taken
- Keep a brief record of problem/action/outcomes, if behavioural problems arise
- Sports Leaders should be aware of good practice with regard to transport, toileting, away/overnight trips, communicating by text, activities that require one-to-one sessions, social media communications, first aid and best practice for those involved with children.
- All sports leaders should be aware of the Criminal Justice (Withholding information on Offences against Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act, 2012

Where possible, Leaders should avoid:

- Spending excessive amounts of time with children away from others
- Taking sessions alone
- Taking children to your home
- Taking children on journey's alone in their car

Physical Contact with children:

A responsible adult should only use physical contact if its aim is to:

1. Develop sports skills or techniques.
2. Treat an injury.
3. Prevent an injury or accident occurring.

The adult must:

1. Not do anything that the child can do for themselves.
2. Explain the reason for the physical contact.
3. Ask the child's permission (unless it is an emergency situation).

Sports Leaders must not:

- Use any form of punishment or physical force on a child. Physical activity (laps or push-ups) will not be given as a sanction.
- Exert undue influence over a participant in order to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Engage in rough physical games, sexually provocative games or allow or engage in inappropriate touching of any kind, and /or make sexually suggestive comments about, or to a child.
- Take measurements or engage in certain types of fitness testing without the presence of other adults.

- Undertake any form of therapy (hypnosis etc.) in the training of children.

Communication with Children:

Club officials/coaches/ team managers must ensure:

- a. Texts and emails for children (U18) must be made via their parents/guardians.
- b. No individual texting or emails with children without their parents/guardians receiving the same message.
- c. Use the club recommended platforms only - group texts/WhatsApp/Teamer.
- d. All contact with children to be in relation to coaching, matches and cricket related activity only.
- e. Adults to be aware of material on social media if there are children on their team.
- f. Have separate cricket club related and personal pages.
- g. Adjust privacy settings so that content is only visible to accepted "friends".
- h. Do not accept requests from children to be their "friend".
- i. Consent of a parent/guardian required before posting any pages online – this includes photographs.

I have read and agree to abide by the above guidelines and Child Safeguarding Policy. I have provided the Secretary of the Youth Section of LCC with documentation of my Garda Vetting and Child Protection training.

I am aware that identifiable coaching tops to be provided by club to all vetted coaches. All vetted coaches must display LCC tops during training.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 2

a. Guidelines for Parents/guardians

LCC Youth Section believes that parents/guardians should:

- Be a role model for your child and maintain the highest standards of conduct when interacting with children, other parents/guardians, with officials and organisers.
- Always behave responsibly and do not seek to affect unfairly the game/player
- Never intentionally expose any young participant to embarrassment or disparagement by the use of flippant or sarcastic remarks
- Always recognise the value and importance of the volunteers who provide sporting/recreational opportunities for your child. Do not publicly question the judgement or honesty of referees, coaches or organisers. Respect umpires, coaches, organisers and other players
- Encourage your child to play by the rules. Teach your child that honest endeavour is as important as winning and do all you can to encourage good sportsmanship.
- Set a good example by applauding good play on both sides. Encourage mutual respect for teammates and opponents.
- Parents/guardians should support all efforts to remove abusive behaviour and bullying behaviour in all its forms.
- It is not the responsibility of the coach or team manager to transport or arrange transport of children to and from matches. Fixture lists will be distributed at the start of the season so that parents/guardians can make appropriate arrangements. Pick up and drop off points will be notified to parents/guardians.
- The importance of punctuality is recognised by parents/guardians due to difficulties caused by late collection of children.

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 2

a. Parental Code of Conduct:

1. I will respect the rules and procedures set down in the Child Safeguarding Policy of LCC Youth Section. My child's membership of LCC Youth Section indicates acceptance of all aspects of Child Safeguarding Policy of LCC Youth Section by me and my child (children). A copy of the Child Safeguarding Policy has been provided to me upon renewal of subscription and I have provided my signature to acknowledge receipt.
2. I will respect my child's teammates, leaders, (e.g. coaches, officials, umpires), and parents/guardians, as well as players, parents/guardians and coaches from opposing teams. I will encourage my child to treat other participants, coaches, selectors and managers with respect.
3. I will give encouragement and applaud only positive accomplishments whether from my child, his/her teammates, their opponents or the officials.
4. I will respect my child's leader(s) and support his/her efforts
5. I will respect the officials and their authority during sessions and events
6. I will never demonstrate threatening or abusive behaviour or use foul language.
7. I will liaise with sports leaders in relation to my children's medical conditions.
8. I will be responsible for ensuring that my child or children are aware of the need to use protective equipment and provision of same.
9. I will be aware that the use of video equipment is a legitimate coaching tool as part of the coaching programme for certain age groups.
10. I will be aware of the timing and location of the activities including travel arrangements etc. and deliver and/or collect our child/children promptly. I am aware that the Youth Section of LCC operates a late collection policy. I am aware that if a parent/guardian or carer is late the club/coach will:
 - a) Attempt to make contact with the parent/guardian/carer
 - b) Wait with the young person (accompanied by at least other adults)
 - c) Not send the child home with another person without prior permission from the parent/guardian.
11. I will be aware that I may have to remain with the team manager/responsible person to ensure the collection of all children after a match.
12. I am aware that it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that the children do not leave the ground during activities.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 3

Code of Conduct for Young Players

Young Players are entitled to:

- Be safe and to feel safe
- Be listened to
- Be believed
- Be treated with dignity, sensitivity and respect
- Have a voice in the club
- Participate on an equal basis
- Have fun and enjoy sport
- Experience competition at a level at which they feel comfortable
- Make complaints and have them dealt with
- Get help against bullies
- Say No
- To protect their own bodies
- Confidentiality

Membership of LCC Youth Section requires that young players (and their parents/guardians) accept this Code of Conduct.

Young players should always:

- Treat Sports Leaders with respect (e.g. Coaches, Managers, Parents/Guardians and Club Officials etc.)
- Play fairly at all times
- Respect team members, even when things go wrong
- Respect opponents, be gracious in defeat
- Abide by the rules set down by team managers when travelling to away games
- Talk to the appointed Children's Officer if they have any problems

Young players should never:

- Cheat
- Use violence or physical contact that is not allowed within the rules
- Shout or argue with officials, team mates or opponents
- Harm team members, opponents or their property
- Bully or use bullying tactics, including the use of social media, to isolate another player
- Use unfair or bullying tactics to gain advantage
- Take banned substances
- Tell lies about adults/young people
- Spread rumours

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 4

Anti-Bullying Policy

If you are concerned that your child is being bullied or in any way involved with bullying please make contact with one of the Children's Officers.

Bullying is not easy to define, can take many forms and is usually repeated over a period of time. The main types of bullying are: physical (e.g. hitting, kicking), verbal (e.g. racist remarks, threats, name calling), emotional (e.g. isolating an individual from activities) and bullying or exclusion using social media. They will include:

- Deliberate hostility and aggression towards the victim
- A victim who is weaker than the bully or bullies
- An outcome which is always painful and distressing for the victim

Bullying behaviour may also include:

- Other forms of violence
- Sarcasm, spreading rumours, persistent teasing or theft
- Tormenting, ridiculing, humiliation
- Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Unwanted physical contact or abusive/offensive comments of a sexual nature

Emotional and verbal bullying is more likely however it is more difficult to cope with or prove.

Here, at LCC Youth Section, we make sure to:

- Take the problem seriously
- Encourage all children to speak out and share their concerns (it is believed that up to 12 children per year commit suicide as a result of bullying, so if anyone talks about or threatens suicide seek professional help immediately).
- Help the child/young person to tell the person in charge or someone in authority in the Section.
- Create an environment where children/young people are able to talk about bullying without fear of reprisal
- Reassure the victim that you can be trusted and will help them. Do not promise that you will not tell anyone else.
- Investigate all allegations and act to make the victim safe.
- Keep a record of incidents, who did and said what.
- Report any concerns to the Section's Children's Officers.
- Talk to bullies and victims separately
- Decide on appropriate action, such as:
- Talk with the bully(ies) and try to get them to understand the impact of the behaviour on the victim
- Obtain an apology from the bully(ies) to the victim
- Inform parents/guardians of the bully(ies)
- Insist on the return of items 'borrowed' or stolen

- Insist bullies compensate the victim
- Hold Section discussions on bullying
- Provide support to those adults involved with the victim and bully
- Encourage and support the bully to change their behaviour
- Challenge all incidents of bullying
- Hold meetings with the parents/guardians to report on progress
- Keep a written record of action taken

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 5

Child Welfare and Protection Procedures

Child welfare and the protection of young people is the concern of all adults at all times, irrespective of their role within the organisation. Personnel appointed by LCC Youth Section to oversee child protection procedures are listed on Page 33.

If there are grounds for concern about the safety or welfare of a young person, you should react to the concern. Persons unsure about whether or not certain behaviours are abusive and therefore reportable, should contact the duty social worker in the local area office of Tusla (the Child and Family Agency) where they will receive advice. Grounds for concern include a specific indication from a child, a statement from a person who witnessed abuse or an illness, injury or behaviour consistent with abuse.

A report may be made by any player / official /member of LCC Youth Section but should be passed on to the Designated Person or to the Children's Officer who may in turn have to pass the concern to Tusla. It is not the responsibility of anyone working within the Section, in a paid or voluntary capacity, to take responsibility or decide whether or not child abuse is taking place. That is the job of Tusla. However, there is a responsibility to protect children by assisting the appropriate agencies so that they can then make enquiries and take any necessary action to protect the young person. Everyone is obliged to provide full cooperation and follow both procedures outlined below, firstly the procedure for responding to a child in distress and secondly the procedure for reporting the concern.

Response to a Child Disclosing Abuse

Note: Unlike the open approach which is advocated with regard to dealing with bullying, if a young person indicates that they wish to make an allegation of abuse, it is recommended that the person to whom the allegation is being made, be accompanied by one other person.

When a young person discloses information of suspected abuse you should:

- deal with any allegation of abuse in a sensitive and competent way through listening to and facilitating the child to tell about the problem, rather than interviewing the child about details of what happened
- stay calm and not show any extreme reaction to what the child is saying. Listen compassionately, and take what the child is saying seriously understand that the child has decided to tell something very important and has taken a risk to do so. The experience of telling should be a positive one so that the child will not mind talking to those involved in the investigation
- be honest with the child and tell them that it is not possible to keep information a secret
- make no judgmental statements against the person whom the allegation is made
- not question the child unless the nature of what s/he is saying is unclear. Leading questions should be avoided. Open, non-specific questions should be used such as "Can you explain to me what you mean by that?"
- check out the concerns with the parents/guardians before making a report unless doing so would endanger the child

- give the child some indication of what would happen next, such as informing parents/guardians, Tusla or An Garda Síochána. It should be kept in mind that the child may have been threatened and may feel vulnerable at this stage.
- carefully record the details
- pass on this information to the Designated Person or the Children's Officer
- reassure the child that they have done the right thing in telling you

Reporting Suspected or Disclosed Child Abuse

The following steps should be taken in reporting child abuse to the statutory authorities:

- Observe and note dates, times, locations and contexts in which the incident occurred or suspicion was aroused, together with any other relevant information
- Report the matter as soon as possible to the Designated Person with responsibility for reporting abuse. If the Designated Person has reasonable grounds for believing that the child has been abused or is at risk of abuse, s/he will make a report to Tusla which has statutory responsibility to investigate and assess suspected or actual child abuse
- In cases of emergency, where a child appears to be at immediate and serious risk and the Designated Person is unable to contact a duty social worker, An Garda Síochána should be contacted. Under no circumstances should a child be left in a dangerous situation pending intervention by Tusla/An Garda Síochána
- If the Designated Person is unsure whether reasonable grounds for concern exist s/he can informally consult with Tusla. S/he will be advised whether or not the matter requires a formal report.
- A Designated Person reporting suspected or actual child abuse to Tusla will first inform the family of their intention to make such a report, unless doing so would endanger the child or undermine an investigation.

The Protection for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act, 1998 provides immunity from civil liability to persons who report child abuse 'reasonably and in good faith' to Tusla or the Gardaí. The act also covers the offence of 'false reporting'.

Allegations Against Sports Leaders

LCC Youth Section has agreed procedures to be followed in cases of alleged child abuse against Sports Leaders. If such an allegation is made against a Sports Leader working within the section, two procedures will be followed:

- The reporting procedure in respect of suspected child abuse. If the Designated Person has reasonable grounds for concern, the matter should be reported to Tusla, following the standard reporting procedure outlined above.
- The procedure for dealing with the Sports Leader. The Chairman should privately inform the leader that (a) an allegation has been made against him / her and (b) the nature of the allegation. He / she should be afforded an opportunity to respond, and to be accompanied by another adult. The leader should be asked to step aside pending the outcome of the investigation. When a person is asked to step aside it should be made clear that it is only a precautionary measure and will not prejudice any later disciplinary proceedings. The governing body (Cricket Ireland) should be informed by the Chairman that the leader has been asked to stand aside.

The safety of the child making the allegation should be considered and the safety of any other children who may be at risk. The Section should take any steps that may be necessary to protect children in its care.

LCC Youth Section can consider disciplinary action on the leader but should ensure that this does not interfere with the investigation of Tusla/An Garda Síochána. It is important that the Section considers the outcome of the investigation and any implications it might have. The fact that the alleged abuser has not been prosecuted or been found guilty does not mean that they are appropriate to work with young people in the future.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality should be maintained in respect of all issues and people involved in cases of abuse, welfare or bad practice. It is important that the rights of both the child and the person about whom the complaint has been made are protected.

The following points should be kept in mind:

- A guarantee of confidentiality or undertakings regarding secrecy cannot be given, as the welfare of the child will supersede all other considerations
- All information should be treated in a careful and sensitive manner and should be discussed only with those who need to know
- Information should be conveyed in a sensitive manner to the parents / guardians of the child about whom there are concerns
- Giving information to others on a 'need to know' basis for the protection of a child is not a breach of confidentiality
- All persons involved in a child protection process (the child, his/her parents/guardians, the alleged offender, his/her family, Sports Leaders) should be afforded appropriate respect, fairness, support and confidentiality at all stages of the procedure.
- Information should be stored in a secure place, with limited access to designated people.
- The requirements of the Data Protection laws should be adhered to.
- Breach of confidentiality is a serious matter.

Anonymous Complaints

Anonymous complaints can be difficult to deal with but should not be ignored. In all cases, the safety and welfare of the child/children is paramount. Any such complaint relating to inappropriate behaviour should be brought to the attention of the Children's Officer or the Designated Person. The information should be checked out and handled in a confidential manner.

Rumours

Rumours should **not** be allowed to hang in the air. Any rumours relating to inappropriate behaviour should be brought to the attention of the Designated Person or the Children's Officer and checked out without delay.

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 6

Guidelines for Use of Photographic /Filming Equipment

1. No photography is permitted at matches or training without prior permission of the parents/guardian(s) which is to be ascertained and recorded on subscription renewal each year.
2. Formal camera registration book to be set up for festivals/events/competitions. Records to be kept in the scorebook for matches by the team manager or via the Club Office in LCC.
3. Avoid personal information in captions which accompany images of young children.
4. Ensure photograph or recording should focus on activity rather than a young person.
5. Parents/guardians/spectators taking photographs/recordings should seek permission from the Youth Section in advance and make themselves available to state the purpose of recording.
6. Group and team photographs are permitted but avoid matching a player's name with the position in which they may be standing or seated in team photograph.
7. Create recognised procedures for reporting the use of inappropriate images to reduce the risks to under age players. Any instances of the use of inappropriate images should be reported to the Children's Officer and/or Designated Person and also to the relevant statutory authorities as deemed appropriate.
8. The key concerns regarding the use of images and photographs of children/young people relate to:
 - a. The possible identification of children when a photograph is accompanied by personal information and its inappropriate use thereafter.
 - b. The inappropriate use, adaptation or copying of images for the development of abusive images of children or illegal websites.
 - c. The taking of inappropriate photographs or recorded images of children.
9. A parent/guardian is entitled to have any photograph of their child removed from public fora such as the club website.
10. A common sense approach is required when deciding on what may or may not be appropriate as the Section does not wish to prohibit the recording of games, coaching or celebrations at club level through the use of photography or by recording on video equipment.
11. If an image is to be posted on the LCC website, then:
 - a. Only use images in appropriate kit
 - b. Use group photographs, if possible
 - c. If a child is named, avoid using a photograph
 - d. If a photograph is used, avoid naming the child.

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 7

Participation in Adult cricket - Men's & Women's Sections' policies

a. Child Protection Guidelines for LCC Men's Cricket Section, 2018.

Captains of adult teams who field youth players should strive to create a positive environment for the children in their care. They have an overall responsibility to take the necessary steps to ensure that positive and healthy experiences are provided.

Captains will be forwarded a copy of the LCC Youth Cricket Section's code of ethics and they should make themselves aware of the procedures contained within the Section's code of Ethics. All Captains to sign and date a copy of Guidelines for LCC Men's Cricket Section, 2018.

- All Captains are to be Garda vetted and Certificate of GV is to be emailed to LCC Men's Section Secretary: pamcassidy2011@gmail.com
 - Any communication with an Under 18 player must be through the parents or copied to child and parent.
 - It is not the responsibility of the Captain to arrange to transport children to and from the club or match. Adults must not be alone with a child in a car travelling to/from a match.
 - If adults and children need to share a changing facility, showers they must do so at different times or not be alone with a sole child in a changing room.
 - Helmets, Fast Bowling Directives and Fielding regulations should always be adhered for junior players in adult cricket. Young players who are selected for provincial U13 squads are eligible to play adult cricket. They must have written parental consent to play.
 - Duty of care: Not to place a young player in a position that involves an unreasonable risk to that young player, taking account of the circumstances of the match and the relative skills of the player.
 - Duty of care: Not to create a situation that places members of the opposing side in a position whereby they cannot play cricket as they would normally do against adult players.
 - Adults/Captains should only use physical contact to treat an injury or prevent an accident/injury from occurring.
 - Ensure the Youth player's safety, personal development needs and overall cricket experience are considered within the team.
 - Captains should provide opportunities for Youth players to show their talents in an appropriate way. Children who are used as fielders will not fully experience the game.
 - A Captain should keep a record of any injury and action taken and report to the parents/guardians.
 - All sports leaders should be aware of the Criminal Justice (Withholding information on Offences against Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act, 2012 and Children's First Act 2015.
- I have read and agree to abide by the above guidelines and code of conduct.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

b. Child Protection Guidelines for LCC Women's Cricket Section, 2018.

Captains and vice captains of adult teams who field youth players should strive to create a positive environment for the children in their care. They have an overall responsibility to take the necessary steps to ensure that positive and healthy experiences are provided.

Captains and vice captains will be forwarded a copy of the LCC Youth Cricket Section's code of ethics and they should make themselves aware of the procedures contained within the Section's code of Ethics. All Captains and vice captains to sign and date a copy of: Guidelines for LCC Women's Cricket Section, 2018.

- All Captains, vice captains, coaches and current committee members are to be Garda vetted and Certificate of GV is to be emailed to LCC Women's Section Secretary: sophiemac@live.ie
- Any official communication with an Under 18 player must be through the parents or copied to child and parent. All communication re selection will be through our group site.
- It is not the responsibility of the Captain or vice-captain to arrange transport for children to and from the club or match. Adults must not be alone with a child in a car travelling to/from a match. Where practical, adults should have underage players in the back of the car.
- As the women's cricket section has a mix of adults and youth members, all must be aware that changing facilities and showers will on occasion be availed of by all players and respect for privacy should be observed. All team management should announce themselves before entering the team changing area and should never be in the dressing room with an underage player in a one to one situation.
- Helmets, Fast Bowling Directives and Fielding regulations should always be adhered for junior players in adult cricket.
- Duty of care: Not to place a young player in a position that involves an unreasonable risk to that young player, taking account of the circumstances of the match and the relative skills of the player.
- Duty of care: Not to create a situation that places members of the opposing side in a position whereby they cannot play cricket as they would normally do against adult players.
- Adults/Captains and vice captains should only use physical contact to treat an injury or prevent an accident/injury from occurring.
- A Captain or vice-captain should keep a record of any injury and action taken and report to the parents.
- All sports leaders should be aware of the Criminal Justice (Withholding information on Offences against Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act, 2012 and Children's First Act 2015.

I have read and agree to abide by the above guidelines and code of conduct.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 8

Disciplinary Process Leinster C. C. Youth Section

This document should be read in conjunction with the Code of Ethics and Good Practice of Leinster Cricket Club. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the two Codes/Disciplinary processes, the terms of this document shall apply to all youth players, officials, coaches, parents and guardians.

DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

(a) Players and Team Officials

1.1 Players and team officials shall conduct themselves in accordance with the Spirit of Cricket as well as within the Laws of Cricket and team captains are responsible for ensuring that these Regulations, the Spirit of Cricket (<https://www.lords.org/mcc/mcc-spirit-of-cricket/what-is-mcc-spirit-of-cricket/spirit-of-cricket-preamble-to-the-laws/>) and the Laws of Cricket (<https://www.lords.org/mcc/laws-of-cricket/laws/>) are adhered to.

1.2 Players and team officials shall not engage in conduct which brings them or the game of cricket into disrepute.

1.3 Where the facts of, or the gravity or seriousness of, the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by Level 1-4 Offences, the complainant may allege an offence under Regulation 1.1 or 1.2. The penalty for such an offence shall range from written reprimand to a suspension of up to ten matches, or in the case of particularly serious offences, a suspension ranging from three months to a lifetime ban.

1.4 Offences

The four levels of offence that may be committed by a player or team official are set out below, together with the range of penalties that may be imposed in respect of any breach.

1.4.1 Level 1 Offences

The penalty for a Level 1 offence shall be a written reprimand and/or a one-match suspension.

- Abuse of cricket equipment, clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings.
- Showing dissent at an Umpire's decision by action or verbal abuse.
- Using language that is obscene, offensive or insulting and/or the making of obscene gestures.
- Excessive appealing.
- Pointing or gesturing towards the pavilion in an aggressive manner by a member of the fielding side upon the dismissal of a batsman.

1.4.2 Level 2 Offences

The penalty for a Level 2 offence is a two- or three-match suspension.

- Showing serious dissent at an Umpire's decision by action or verbally.
- Inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with another player or players in the course of play.
- Charging or advancing towards the Umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.

- Deliberate and malicious distraction or obstruction of another player on the field of play.
- Throwing the ball at or near a player, Umpire or official in an inappropriate and dangerous manner.
- Using language and/or gestures that are obscene, offensive or of a seriously insulting nature to another player, Umpire, team official or person attending.
- Changing the condition of the ball
- In the case of the captain of a team, any attempt to manipulate a match with regard to the result, net run rate, bonus points or otherwise.
- Commission of two Level 1 offences within 12 months (including in the same match).

1.4.3 Level 3 Offences.

The penalty for a Level 3 offence is a suspension of a minimum of four to a maximum of ten matches.

- Attempted intimidation of an Umpire, whether by language or conduct.
- Threat of assault on another player, team official or person attending.
- Using language or gestures that offend, insult, humiliate, intimidate, threaten, disparage or vilify another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour, descent and national or ethnic origin.
- Commission of two Level 2 offences within 12 months (including in the same match).

1.4.4 Level 4 Offences.

The penalty for a Level 4 offence is a suspension of a minimum of 10 matches up to a lifetime ban.

Alternatively, in light of the seriousness of the offences, the penalty may be a suspension for a period of a minimum of three months up to a lifetime ban.

- Threat of assault on an Umpire.
- Physical assault on another player, umpire, official or person attending.
- Any act of violence on the field of play.
- Using language or gestures that seriously offend, insult, humiliate, intimidate, threaten, disparage or vilify another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour, descent and national or ethnic origin.
- Commission of two Level 3 offences within 12 months (including in the same match).

1.5 Corruption

The penalty for an offence of corruption shall be as provided in the ICC Anti-Corruption Code for Players and Player Support Personnel or the ICC Code of Conduct for Umpires, as appropriate.

The timeframes provided in these Regulations shall not be applicable in relation to allegations of corruption.

(b) Code of Ethics and Good Practice (Youth Code of Ethics)

1.6 The duties and responsibilities of Managers, Coaches, Selectors, Parents or Guardians and Players are set out in the Youth Code of Ethics. Breach of any of these duties or responsibilities shall constitute a disciplinary offence.

1.7 If the complaint involves suspected abuse or a criminal offence, the Designated Person shall be consulted and, if s/he so determines, the matter shall be reported to the statutory authorities and removed from the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Committee pending the outcome of any investigation and ensuing action by them. The Designated Person may, if s/he sees fit, suspend the person against whom the complaint has been made from involvement in cricket pending the outcome of this process. The Designated Person is appointed by the Executive Committee of Leinster Cricket Club.

- 1.8 The penalty for an offence under the Youth Code of Ethics shall be one or more of the following:
- a) a written reprimand and warning as to future conduct;
 - b) in the case of a Player, suspension from such matches or for such a period as may be specified;
 - c) in the case of a Manager, Coach or Selector, suspension from that role for such a period as may be specified;
 - d) In the case of a Parent or Guardian, suspension from attendance at matches and/or coaching sessions for such a period as may be specified.

DISCIPLINARY PANEL AND APPEALS COMMISSIONERS

2.1 A Disciplinary Panel to consider and adjudicate on the Complaint shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of Leinster Cricket Club and shall hold office until it has concluded its investigation and published its decision. One or more Disciplinary Panels may be established to consider different complaints.

2.2 The Disciplinary Panel shall consist of a former Officer of the Club, or one of its Sections, who shall act as Chairman, together with two Ordinary or Pavilion members.

2.3 An Appeals Commissioner shall be appointed by the Executive Committee from former Officers of the club or one of its Sections and shall not, for so long as they are Appeals Commissioners, sit on a Disciplinary Panel.

2.4 If any member of the Disciplinary Panel or any Appeals Commissioner becomes unavailable, the Executive Committee may appoint a substitute provided that no hearing has taken place in respect of the complaint before the relevant Committee/Appeals Commissioner.

2.5 If two members of the Disciplinary Panel become unavailable to participate in the work of the Committee, after a hearing has taken place, the remaining member may continue with the hearing alone or, at his or her discretion, may ask the Executive Committee to appoint a new Disciplinary Panel to recommence the hearing.

DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

The person against whom a Complaint (as defined below) is made shall be “the Respondent”.

The Complaint

(a) Complaints against Players and/or Team Officials

3.1 The statement setting out the alleged offence (“the Complaint”) shall be in writing and must be sent to the Hon. Secretary no later than four working days after the end of the match at which the alleged offence occurred. It may be sent by letter, fax or email.

3.2 Where the alleged offence took place on the field of play or elsewhere within the sight and hearing of the Umpires, only the Umpires may make the Complaint. Where the alleged offence was not so witnessed by the Umpires, the Complaint may be made by a duly authorised officer of Leinster CC.

Level 1 Offence

3.3 If the Complaint relates only to a Level 1 Offence by a player, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee shall deal with the matter on the basis of the documentation as follows, without a hearing:

- S/he shall provide a copy of the Complaint to the player and invite a written submission from him/her.
- Any such submission shall be received not more than five days from the date that the player receives a copy of the Complaint.
- Having received the player's written submission, or if none is forthcoming, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman shall reach a decision on the Complaint and advise the player in writing by letter, email or fax of his/her decision and of any penalty.
- There shall be no appeal from such a decision.

(b) Complaints under the Youth Code of Ethics

3.4 The Complaint shall be in writing and must be sent to the Hon. Secretary no later than seven working days after the end of the match, coaching session or tournament at which the alleged offence occurred. It may be sent by letter, fax or email.

3.5 The following shall have authority to make a Complaint:

- Against a Manager, Coach or Selector – Another Manager, Coach or Selector, or a Parent or Guardian.
- Against a Parent or Guardian – A Manager, Coach or Selector, or another Parent or Guardian.
- Against a Player – A Manager, Coach or Selector, or the Parent or Guardian of another Player.

Hearing

The following shall apply to all offences other than Level 1 offences by a player dealt with under Regulation 3.3:

3.6 An individual panel ("Disciplinary Panel") as outlined in Section 2 shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to adjudicate on the Complaint or Complaints.

3.7 Each member shall have one vote. In the event of an equality of votes for any reason, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

3.8 In appointing the Disciplinary Panel, the Executive Committee shall, insofar as is practical, endeavour to ensure that no person is appointed who has a conflict of interest in relation to the Complainant or the Respondent.

3.9 The Disciplinary Panel shall have all powers necessary for, and incidental to, the exercise of its functions and, subject to these Regulations, it shall have the power to regulate its procedures.

3.10 The hearing shall be held as soon as reasonably practical and shall be confidential and held in private, unless the Disciplinary Panel decides otherwise.

3.11 The Disciplinary Panel may postpone or adjourn a hearing if appropriate, including to take any legal advice that it considers necessary, or if it considers it necessary to call evidence that was not available at the hearing.

3.12 The Respondent shall be invited to attend the hearing. He/she shall be sent a copy of the Complaint and notified in writing of:

- his/her entitlement to have the matter dealt with under Regulation 3.13.
- the place and time of the hearing;
- his/her entitlement to be accompanied to the hearing, at his/her own cost, by a supporter. The supporter may be a work colleague, fellow player, family member or friend (he/she is not entitled to be legally represented)
- where applicable, the requirement that any Respondent aged under 18 shall be accompanied at the hearing by a responsible adult (preferably his/her parent or guardian);
- his/her entitlement to call witnesses to give evidence at the hearing.
- where the Defendant is aged under 18, the notification shall be sent to his/her parent or guardian.

3.13 For all offences other than Level 1 Offences, a Respondent may admit to the offence in writing to the Hon. Secretary and submit in writing any statement he wishes to make as regards the appropriate penalty. In such circumstances, the Disciplinary Panel shall decide the penalty without the need for a hearing.

3.14 The Disciplinary Panel, at the request of the Respondent or on its own initiative, may require the Respondent and/or the Complainant to supply it, within such time as it determines, with further particulars of the incident(s) giving rise to the Complaint, including details of all witnesses whom the Respondent intends to call at any hearing together with details of the evidence to be given by those witnesses, and the Respondent and/or the Complainant shall comply with that direction.

3.15 Any failure by a Respondent to comply with any requirement or direction of the Disciplinary Panel, including those requirements or directions to be complied with within a time period, shall not prevent the Disciplinary Panel from proceeding and such failure may be taken into consideration by the Disciplinary Panel when making its decision.

3.16 The Disciplinary Panel shall have the power to decide on the admissibility, relevance and weight of any evidence and shall not be bound by any legal rules in relation to such matters. Facts may be established by any reliable means, including admissions.

3.17 The Respondent's supporter may advise the Respondent during the hearing, may question witnesses and make representations on the Respondent's behalf, and may seek procedural guidance from the Disciplinary Panel. He/she shall not answer questions on the Respondent's behalf.

3.18 Any failure by the Respondent or his/her supporter to attend a hearing after notification shall not prevent the Disciplinary Panel from proceeding with the hearing in his/her absence.

3.19 A minute shall be taken of all hearings by a Secretary or, in his/her absence, by another person appointed by the Disciplinary Panel.

THE DECISION AND PENALTY

4.1 For the avoidance of doubt, although a Complaint may categorise an offence as a Level 1 or other category of offence, a Disciplinary Panel shall not be bound by that categorisation and may decide that another category of offence, and therefore penalty, is appropriate.

4.2 The standard of proof shall be whether the Disciplinary Panel is comfortably satisfied, bearing in mind the seriousness of the allegation that is made, that the alleged offence has been committed. This standard of proof shall be determined on a sliding scale from a mere balance of probability (for the least serious offences) up to a very high probability (for the most serious offences).

4.3 After hearing the evidence the Disciplinary Panel shall, where appropriate, retire to consider its decision. The Chairman shall then give the Disciplinary Panel's decision orally to the Respondent. If that decision is that the Respondent is liable in respect of the Complaint, the Respondent shall be given the opportunity to make a submission/statement on the appropriate penalty.

4.4 After listening to any such submission/statement the Disciplinary Panel may retire to reach its decision on the penalty.

4.5 The Disciplinary Panel may hear the Respondent's submissions on penalty prior to having reached its decision on the Complaint, where it would be unreasonable or impractical to hear the submission after reaching its decision on the Complaint.

4.6 In deciding the penalty, the Disciplinary Panel shall have regard to any prior disciplinary record of the Respondent.

4.7 The Chairman shall, where reasonably practical, give the decision orally at the hearing. It shall be effective immediately upon oral communication to the Respondent. The oral decision shall be confirmed in writing to the Respondent (in the case of a Respondent aged under 18, his/her parent or guardian) within three working days by letter, email or fax, and a copy forwarded to the Hon Secretary.

APPEAL PROCESS

5.1 A Respondent may appeal from the decision of the Disciplinary Panel as to the finding of liability, the penalty imposed or both, other than as provided in Regulation 3.3.

5.2 Any appeal must be made in writing and sent to the Hon. Secretary by letter, email or fax no later than three working days after receipt of the written decision of the Disciplinary Panel and:

5.2.1 must be accompanied by an administration fee of €100; and

5.2.2 must set out the legal or procedural grounds for the appeal.

5.3 The Hon. Secretary shall, once an appeal has been received by him/her, appoint an Appeal Commissioner and forward to him/her details of the Complaint, any witness statements, the decision of the Disciplinary Panel and the minutes of the hearing.

5.4 If the Appeal Commissioner appointed to hear an appeal considers that he/she may have a conflict of interest he/she shall advise the Hon. Secretary of this. The Hon. Secretary shall then appoint another Appeal Commissioner to hear the appeal.

5.5 An Appeal Commissioner shall have all powers necessary for, and incidental to, the exercise of his/her functions and, subject to these Regulations, he/she shall have the power to regulate the procedures of matters which come before him/her. He/she shall conduct the appeal hearing in accordance with Regulations 3.9-3.19, with such adjustments as the Appeal Commissioner deems necessary in order to reflect the different context.

5.6 The Appeal Commissioner shall deal with appeals in respect of Level 1 and Level 2 Offences purely on the basis of the documentation and there shall be no hearing.

5.7 The Appeal Commissioner shall give his/her decision within seven days of the hearing. If the Appeal Commissioner considers that there are circumstances which require a period longer than seven days, he shall so advise the Respondent (in the case of a Respondent aged under 18, his/her parent or guardian) and inform the Hon. Secretary.

5.8 If the Appeal Commissioner considers that he requires further information, then he may request such information from the person from whom he needs it. He may stipulate the time within which it must be forwarded to him/her and the time for the determination of the appeal shall be suspended.

5.9 The Appeal Commissioner may direct that the administration fee be returned if the appeal is successful or if he considers that there were valid grounds for the making of the appeal which justify the return of part or the entire fee.

5.10 On his/her determination of the appeal the Appeal Commissioner shall give notice in writing of his/her decision to the Respondent (in the case of a Respondent aged under 18, his/her parent or guardian) by letter, email or fax, and forward a copy to Hon. Secretary.

Child Safeguarding Policy - Appendix 9

ICC Europe / ECB Safety Regulations

These Directives are applicable to all competitions played under the ICC Europe and/or ECB Regulations, and they apply to boys and girls. Any reference to he/his should be interpreted to include she/her. Age groups are based on the age of the player on 1 September in the year preceding the competition. It must be noted that the Directives are aimed at an individual's age as opposed to the age group of the Championship being played. For example, a player who because of his age, falls into the under 15 group, must abide by the restrictions laid down for that age group. This will apply even though he may be playing in an under 17 Championship. He cannot bowl/field using the under 17 restrictions, he is still bound by the under 15 restrictions.

Fielding Restrictions

Fielders

- No young player in the under 15 age group or younger shall be allowed to field closer than 8 yards (7.3m) from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side, until the batsman has played at the ball.
- For those in the under 13 age group and below, the distance is 11 yards (10m).
- These minimum distances apply even if the player is wearing a helmet.
- Should a player in these age groups come within the restricted distance the umpire must stop the game immediately and instruct the fielder to move back.
- Any player in the under 16 to under 18 age groups who has not reached the age of 18, must wear a helmet, and for boys, an abdominal protector (box) when fielding within 6 yards (5.5m) of the bat, except behind the wicket on the off side.

Wicket-keepers

- Any wicket-keeper under the age of 18 (on the day of the match) must wear a helmet when standing up to the stumps. This applies to all speeds of bowling.
- Non-compliance with this Directive will result in the umpires stopping the game and instructing the wicket-keeper to put on a helmet or stand back from the stumps.

Bowling Restrictions

For the purpose of these Directives, a fast bowler is defined as a bowler to whom a wicket-keeper in the same age group would in normal circumstances stand back to take the ball. This does not preclude the umpires from insisting that these Directives apply even though the ability of the wicket-keeper means that he is capable of standing up to what they consider to be a fast bowler.

Directives for matches

AGE	MAX	MAX
Up to 13	5 overs per spell	10 overs per day
U14, U15	6 overs per spell	12 overs per day
U16, U17	7 overs per spell	18 overs per day
U18, U19	7 overs per spell	18 overs per day

In addition to these, the ECB also recommend that in any 7 day period a fast bowler should not bowl more than 4 days in that period and for a maximum of 2 days in a row.' For example: in a tournament lasting 5 days, a fast bowler would bowl on days 1 and 2: not bowl on day 3: bowl on days 4 and 5.

Having completed a spell, a bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until an equivalent number of overs to the length of his spell have been bowled from the same end. If a bowler only completes part of his permitted spell, the above restriction still applies. For example, if he is allowed 7 overs, but only bowls 4, he cannot bowl again, until 4 overs have been bowled from the same end. He cannot resume his 'spell' after 2 overs from the same end, claiming that he is allowed another 3 overs to make up his 7. However, a bowler is allowed to change ends during a spell without taking a rest. This can only be done provided that he bowls the next permissible over from the other end. If there is an interruption in play, whether scheduled or not, he will be allowed to count time off the field as part of his 'rest time'. During this interruption, the bowler may count every 7 minutes of the interruption as being equivalent to 1 over at each end.

If play is interrupted for any reason for less than 40 minutes, any spell in progress at the time of the interruption can be continued after the interruption up to the maximum number of overs per spell for the appropriate age group. In this case, the bowler cannot claim any time off the field as rest time and his spell will still be in progress even though play is suspended. If the spell is not continued after the interruption, the bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until the equivalent number of overs to the length of his spell before the interruption has been bowled from the same end. If the interruption is of 40 minutes duration or more, whether scheduled or not, the bowler can commence a new spell immediately.

Once a bowler covered by these Directives has bowled in a match, he cannot exceed the maximum overs per day for his age group even if he subsequently bowls spin. He can exceed the maximum of overs per spell if bowling spin only, but cannot then revert to bowling fast until an equivalent number of overs to the length of his spell have been bowled from the same end. Any spell that includes fast bowling must not exceed the maximum number of overs per spell even if some of the spell is of spin.

Umpires' responsibility

The umpires are expected to monitor these players and keep records of the overs such players bowl. Once the maximum allowance for any one spell has been reached, they will inform the player and the captain accordingly, and will not allow the player to bowl again until the requisite rest period has been fulfilled.

Prior to the game, the manager/coach/captain will inform the umpires in writing, of any player who comes under this Directive. If during the game, the umpires consider that any other players come under this Directive, they shall inform the Tournament Director and manager/ coach/captain as soon as is practical, and that these players shall be subject to the above Directives.

Batting Directive

Any batter under the age of 18 (on the day of the match) must wear a helmet when batting. Non-compliance with this Directive will result in the umpires stopping the game immediately and instructing the batter to put on a helmet.

Use of the Bowling Machine

Particular care should be taken when a bowling machine is used in the course of a practice session. The following safety guidelines should be followed:

1. No youth player under the age of 16 years is permitted to use the cricket bowling machine without a LCC coach present at the nets session.
2. All youth players must wear full protective gear while batting in the nets with or without the bowling machine
3. No youth bowler must bowl in nets while another is retrieving a ball from the same net.
4. The coach will always have overall responsibility for the operation of the bowling machine.
5. All necessary regulations concerning the supply of electricity to bowling machines and manufacturers recommendations must be strictly adhered to.
6. Batters should take the opportunity to observe several deliveries before taking strike.
7. During practice, no adjustment to the machine should be made without the batter being informed of the result before receiving another delivery.
8. Adjustments to the machine should be made only under the supervision of the coach. The feeder should ensure the batter is ready and indicate to him that he is about to feed the machine for each delivery.
9. Balls should be inspected prior to use and rejected if worn or damaged.
10. When practising certain strokes, it may be advisable for the feeder to have some form of physical protection.
11. Do not increase the speed above that which the individual batter can play with some degree of certainty.

Contact Details – Children’s Officers/Youth Section Officers

The **Designated Persons** in LCC Cricket Section to whom incidents should be reported are the **Children’s Officers** who are Conal Cassidy and Mary Mc Mahon.

Conal Cassidy

Mobile: 087 2551147

Email: pmcas@eircom.net

Mary Mc Mahon

Mobile: 087 2868417

Email:

Youth Section Officers

Chair: Declan O’Brien

Mobile: 086 8363187

Email: Declanobrien699@gmail.com

Secretary: Alison Crawford

Mobile: 087 2343463

Email: ali_crawf@hotmail.com