



## **Muckross Hockey Club Supervision Policy**

Muckross Hockey Club is fully committed to safeguarding the well-being of all its participants and will endeavour to create a safe environment for all individuals involved in our sport. As part of this commitment we set out the Club guidelines for supervision of children during Club Activities:

### **Transport**

There is an extra responsibility on adults when they transport young people to events. Under no circumstances should coaches provide transport to underage players.

Adults should:

- Ensure there is adequate insurance on their car and that they follow the rules of the road, including the legal use of seat belts
- Ensure they do not carry more than the permitted number of passengers
- Avoid being alone with one passenger, put passengers in the back seat, have central drop off locations or seek parental permission when transporting on a regular basis. Parents should check with young people about the plans, listen to what the young people are saying, be sure they are happy with the transport arrangements.

### **General Supervision**

Muckross Hockey Club will:

- Ensure adequate Adult: Child ratios. Good practice dictates that a coach/volunteer should try to ensure that more than one adult is present. This will help to ensure the safety of the children as well as protect adults
- Adult:Child ratios will depend on the nature of the activity, the age of the participants and any special needs of the group, a general guide might be 1:8 for under 12 years of age and 1:10 for over 12 years of age
- Avoid adults being left alone with young players, if a coach/volunteer needs to talk separately to a participant this should be done in an open environment, in view of others
- Respect the privacy of young people while changing, coaches/ volunteers may only need to enter changing rooms where the participants are very young or require special assistance. When necessary, coaches/ volunteers should supervise in pairs or seek assistance, it is the safety and welfare of the players that is of paramount importance
- Coaches / Volunteers should not be left alone with young people at the end of a training session. Clearly state times for start and finish of training and/ or competitions. If late collections occur leaders should remain in pairs until participants have left. It is the



responsibility of parents/ guardians to make arrangements for collection of young people, it should be made clear that the club is responsible only for club activities

- If a child suffers an injury or accident the parents/guardians should be informed.

### **Away trips**

- Written permission of parents/guardians should be obtained for all overnight away trips, this should include permission to travel, behaviour agreement and any medical/special needs of the group, (including permission to treat the participant). The agreement should be signed by both parents and participants (see Sligo Consent Form)
- A meeting with parents and participants is useful to communicate travel times, competition details, other activities, gear requirements, special needs (medical or dietary), and any other necessary details, contact details, codes of conduct, etc.
- All adults who travel on away trips should be carefully chosen, using the recruitment and selection procedure of this code and be Garda Vetted
- The roles and responsibilities of adults participating in away trips should be clearly defined
- On away trips, coaches should be accountable to the Trip Organiser in all non-performance related matters
- Adults should not share a room with a child. Where the presence of an adult is needed there should be more than one child in the room with the adult.
- Alcoholic drink, smoking and other illegal substances/activities are forbidden to participants. Coaches / Volunteers should act as role models in this respect. practice