

Declaration of Intent

This Declaration of Intent is for Sports Leaders & relevant personnel working in regulated activity and/or with regular & continuous access to young people and vulnerable adults. Sports Leaders and relevant personnel should familiarise themselves with IRFU's Safeguarding Policy, in particular this 'Code of Conduct'. Sports Leader & relevant personnel should read and agree to abide by these terms, and should update the self-declaration questions annually. This is to be done in conjunction with a vetting check.



In rugby, I agree that I should

- Be positive during sessions and competitions, praise and encourage effort as well as results
- Put welfare of Age-Grade Player first, strike a balance between this and winning / results
- Encourage fair play and treat Age-Grade Players equally
- Recognise developmental needs, ensuring activities are appropriate for the individual
- Plan and prepare appropriately
- Have experience relevant to working with young people or hold up-to-date qualifications and be committed to the guidelines in this Safeguarding Policy
- Involve parents where possible and inform parents when problems arise
- Keep a record of attendance at training and competitions
- Keep a brief record of injury(s) and action taken
- Keep a brief record of problem/action/outcomes, if behavioural problems arise
- Report any concerns in accordance with this Policy's reporting procedures

Where possible I will avoid:

- Spending excessive amounts of time with Age-Grade Players away from others
- Taking sessions alone
- Constant communication with individual Age-Grade Players by mobile phone or email or social media forums
- Taking Age-Grade Players to my home
- Taking Age-Grade Players on journeys alone in my car

I understand that I should not:

- Use any form of physical punishment or physical force on an Age-Grade Player, or ridicule or intimidate Age-Grade Players in any way
- Exert undue influence over any Age-Grade Players 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 an Age-Grade Player. This includes innuendo, flirting or inappropriate gestures and terms
- Take measurements or engage in certain types of fitness testing without the presence of another adult
- Undertake any form of therapy (hypnosis, massage, etc.) in the training of Age-Grade Players

Self-Declaration

I agree that

- I will abide by the guidelines contained in the IRFU Safeguarding Policy
- I have not been asked to leave a sporting organisation?
- There is no reason why I should not be working with young people and vulnerable adults and/or in a regulated activity?
- I have not been convicted of a criminal offence or been the subject of a caution; a Bound Over Order; or am not at present the subject of criminal investigations?

IRFU Declaration of Intent

I, _____, of _____ Club, hereby acknowledge that I have received a copy of the IRFU's Safeguarding Policy. I also acknowledge that I have read the Policy and hereby declare my intention to adhere to the Safeguarding Policy and related guidelines. I agree to attend any necessary safeguarding training as directed by IRFU and Club Welfare Officer. I will also support related initiatives by the IRFU and Sports Councils'

Signed by Sports Leader _____
Date _____

Signed by CWO _____
Date: _____

All age-grade Sports Leader to receive a copy of the IRFU Safeguarding Policy. They should also sign the Declaration of Intent declaration above if working 'regularly and continuously' with young people as part of the recruitment process. They should complete the vetting process, (<http://www.irishrugby.ie/playingthegame/development/safeguarding/recruitment.php>) and agree to attend safeguarding training as directed by the Club Welfare Officer and/or IRFU.

In conjunction with this recruitment process, the club will provide adequate supervision and any necessary training to avoid the Sports Leader having to work alone or unprepared.