



Strokestown Golf Club

Child Safeguarding Statement

Strokestown Golf Club provides various golfing activities and opportunities for young people through participation in club and regional events.

- **Name:** *Strokestown Golf Club*
- **Sport:** Golf
- **Location:** Bumlin, Strokestown, Co. Roscommon F42 YK12

Section 2 - *Strokestown Golf Club* is committed to safeguarding children by working under our Safeguarding Policy. Our staff, both volunteers and employed, working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within golf by adhering to the following principles:

- **Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in golf.
- **Needs of the child** - All junior golf experiences should be guided by what is best for children. This means that adults should have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical and personal needs of young people.
- **Integrity in relationships** - Adults interacting with children in golf are in a position of trust and influence and must never abuse this position of trust. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play** - All junior golf should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. *Strokestown Golf Club* will promote fair play, respect, ethics, integrity and safety throughout our organisation
- **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Junior golf should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Competition** - Competition is an essential element of golf and should be encouraged in an age appropriate manner. A balanced approach to competition can make a significant contribution to the development of children, while at the same time providing fun, enjoyment and satisfaction. However competitive demands are often placed on children too early which results in excessive levels of pressure on them. Golf leaders should aim to put the welfare of young people first and competitive standards second.
- **Equality** - All children should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.

Section 3 - Risk Assessment

Strokestown Golf Club's written Risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process documents required to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
<p>Coaching Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lack of coaching qualification. ➤ Supervision issues. ➤ Unauthorised photography & recording activities. ➤ Behavioural Issues. ➤ Lack of gender balance amongst coaches ➤ No guidance for travelling & away trips ➤ Risk of harm of sexual abuse of a child by a volunteer/member of staff while away on an overnight trip ➤ Lack of adherence with procedures in Safeguarding policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Coach education policy/Recruitment policy. ➤ Supervision policy/Coach education policy ➤ Photography & Use of Images policy ➤ Code of Conduct / Safeguarding 1 / Complaints & Disciplinary policy. ➤ Supervision policy. ➤ Travel/Away trip policy / Child Safeguarding Training. ➤ Travel/Away trip policy, Code of conducts for golf leaders and parents/supervision/recruitment policy ➤ Safeguarding Policy /Recruitment Policy/Code of Conduct/ Complaints & disciplinary policy
<p>Complaints & Discipline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy. ➤ Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent ➤ Complaints not being dealt with seriously 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy / Communications procedure. ➤ Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy / Communications procedure. ➤ Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy.
<p>Reporting Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures ➤ No DLP appointed ➤ Concerns of abuse or harm not reported. ➤ Not clear who young people should talk to or report to. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reporting procedures/policy / Code of Conduct. ➤ Reporting procedures/policy. ➤ Reporting procedures/policy / Child Safeguarding Training – Level 1 ➤ NCO and DLP names displayed and proactively promoted.
<p>Use of Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Unauthorised access to designated children's play & practice areas & to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc..... ➤ Unauthorised exit from children's areas. ➤ Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas. ➤ Missing or found child on site. ➤ Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Supervision policy / General Guidelines with Juniors. ➤ Supervision policy / General Guidelines with Juniors. ➤ Photography policy and use of devices in private zones. ➤ Missing or found child policy. ➤ Safeguarding policy/General Guidelines with Juniors

<p>Recruitment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recruitment of inappropriate people. ➤ Lack of clarity on roles. ➤ Unqualified or untrained people in role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recruitment policy/ AccessNI/Garda Vetting ➤ Recruitment policy ➤ Recruitment policy.
<p>Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors. ➤ No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Conduct to staff/volunteers ➤ Unauthorised photography & recording of activities. ➤ Inappropriate use of social media & communications by under 18's ➤ Inappropriate use of social media & communications with under 18's. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Child Safeguarding Statement / Training Policy. ➤ Child Safeguarding Statement (display) / Code of Conduct (distributed to all working with children). Proactive communication of club values and safeguarding standards. ➤ Photography & Use of Images policy ➤ Communications policy / Code of conduct/Social Media Policy/ Disciplinary policy. ➤ Communications policy / Code of conduct/Social Media Policy/ Disciplinary policy.
<p>General Risk of Harm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Harm not being recognised. ➤ Harm caused by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Child to Child. ○ Coach to Child. ○ Volunteer to Child. ○ Member to Child. ○ Visitor to Child. ➤ General behavioural issues. ➤ Issues of Bullying. ➤ Vetting of staff/volunteers. ➤ Issues of Online Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Safeguarding policy / Child Safeguarding Training. ➤ Safeguarding policy / Child Safeguarding Training/ Anti-Bullying policy/ Disciplinary policy. ➤ Code of Conduct. ➤ Anti-Bullying policy. ➤ Recruitment policy / Vetting policy. ➤ Social Media guidance

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 17 / Nov /2021

Section 4 – Procedures

Our 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 availing of our activities.

Insert Club Name has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policy:

- 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 reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.

The Club Children's Officer for *Strokestown Golf Club* is *Rose Lally*

Section 5 – Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. *Strokestown Golf Club* is 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 activities.

Please note the following:

- That all volunteers and staff have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency & members of the public on request.
- This statement is displayed in a prominent place by *Strokestown Golf Club*.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in *Nov/2023* (every 2 years)

Signed: *Rose Lally* Date: *17/11/2021*
(Club Children's Officer On behalf of *Strokestown Golf Club*)

Signed: *M. Amigan* Date: *17/11/2021*
(Junior Convenor of *Strokestown Golf Club*)

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact the (CCO): *Rose Lally*