

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of WWKC

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 the following is the Written Risk Assessment of WWKC.

1. List of Club activities

- Arrival and departure of youth members at club, pool, trip or event.
- Paddling Instruction on Land
- Paddling Instruction on Water
- River trips.
- Competitions
- First Aid, Rescue and River Safety Instruction
- Other associated sporting activities
- Kayak trips or competitions involving overnight stay
- Kayak trips or competitions involving foreign travel
- Use of toilet/changing/shower/ social areas in club.
- Fundraising events involving youth members
- Use of off-site facilities for water activities
- Transport arrangements for trips or competitions
- Care of children with special needs
- Care of any vulnerable adult members.
- Administration of Medicine
- Administration of First Aid
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst members
- Training of club personnel in child protection matters
- Use of external personnel to support paddling and other associated activities
- Use of video/photography/other media to record paddling events

2. The Club has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -

- Risk of child being harmed at the club by a member, volunteer or visitor
- Risk of child being harmed at the club by another child
- Risk of child being harmed by a member of another club or other person while child participating in water activities e.g. at pool, trip or competition
- Risk of harm due to bullying of child
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision on or off the water
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at club, event or competition
- Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving First Aid care
- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one coaching situation
- Risk of harm caused by member of club communicating with youth members in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
- Risk of harm caused by member accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner

3. The Club has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -

- All Coaches, Instructors, Committee Members and others regularly involved with junior members must be Garda Vetted.
- All Coaches, Instructors and others regularly involved with junior members must successfully complete the course: Safeguarding 1 – Basic Awareness Workshop in Child Welfare and Protection
- The club's designated Children's Development and Protection Officer must complete Safeguarding 2 – Club Children's Officer Workshop
- The club has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of club outings, trips and competitions, domestic and international
- The club adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation
- The club has a code of conduct for members with disciplinary procedures up to and including expulsion
- The club has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid
- The club has in place a code of conduct for juniors.
- The club has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by junior members
- The club has in place an imaging policy and social media policy

Important Note: It should be noted that risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of "harm" as defined in the Children First Act 2015 and not general health and safety risk.

In undertaking this risk assessment, the committee has endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to this club and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified. While it is not possible to foresee and remove all risk of harm, the club has in place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Committee on 20th March 2025. It shall be reviewed within 24 months as part of the ongoing review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed  20/03/2025

Chairperson,

Signed  20/3/2025

Child Protection and Development Officer