



## Inbhear Dee Athletics Club

# Inbhear Dee Athletics Club Child Safeguarding Statement

### **Section 1 – Club Information**

Inbhear Dee Athletics Club is affiliated to Athletics Ireland and provides various sporting activities and opportunities for children and young people through participation in clubs, regional/provincial events and through to our national teams. Organised events involved the provision of athletic championships and games that involve in some instances require attendance at weekend events and overnight trips for clubs and their members. Athletics Ireland is a voluntary led organisation that provides its members with opportunities to participate in the sport of Track and Field Athletics across all age grades from Juvenile (u9 to u16), Youth (u18), Junior (u20), Senior (u35) and Master (35+).

- **Club Name:** Inbhear Dee Athletics Club
- **Sport:** Track and Field Athletics, Cross Country & Road Running.
- **Location:** Local, County and at national events/training facilities.
- **Activities:** Track and Field, Cross Country and Road Running.

### **Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm**

**Inbhear Dee Athletics Club** is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our Safeguarding Policies our staff, both volunteers, working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within sport. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

- **Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in sport.
- **Needs of the child** - All children's sport 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 sport are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play** - All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasised, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Competition** - Competition is an essential element of sport and should be encouraged in an age-appropriate manner. A child centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place.



## **Inbhear Dee Athletics Club**

- **Equality** - All children should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.

### **Section 3 - Risk Assessment**

The Inbhear Dee Athletics 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 require to alleviate these risks. This document was most recently reviewed by the committee on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2022. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are available on request from Michelle Mc Cormack, Chairperson.

### **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.

**This club has the following procedures in place as part of the Athletics Ireland 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.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person (Club Children's Officer).

***Please note that all procedures listed are available on request.***

Liz (Cullen) Mitchell is the Children's Officer and mandated person as set out in the Children First Act 2015. Liz can be contacted on **086 0298444** or at [\*\*childrensofficerinbheardee@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:childrensofficerinbheardee@gmail.com)

Shelly Mc Cormack is the Chairperson of the club and Designated liaison Person as set out in the Children First Act 2015. She can be contacted at [\*\*childrensofficerinbheardee@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:childrensofficerinbheardee@gmail.com)

### **Section 5 – Implementation**



## Inbhear Dee Athletics Club

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our 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 have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, Tusla Child and Family Agency & members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed on the Inbhear Dee Website

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on **1/5/2024**

**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michele Mc Cormack', written over a grey rectangular background.

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022

Michele Mc Cormack

*Chairperson/Designated Liaison Person*

**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liz (Cullen) Mitchell', written over a grey rectangular background.

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022

Liz (Cullen) Mitchell

*Club Children's Officer*

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact the Children's Officer, Liz Mitchell at **086 0298444** or at [\*\*childrensofficerinbheardee@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:childrensofficerinbheardee@gmail.com)