



## **SUTTON DINGHY CLUB - CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

Children are the lifeblood of the sport of sailing and it is crucial that they are cared for in the right manner. Sutton Dinghy Club is fully committed to safeguarding the well being of all children whether club members or visitors and operates under the guidelines contained in the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport in Ireland. For the purposes of this Code a child is any person under the age of 18.

As a parent, you will no doubt want your child to enjoy their involvement in sailing in a safe, friendly environment where there are opportunities to learn and develop sailing and life skills while having fun.

In order to provide young people with the best possible experiences and opportunities in the sport of sailing, it is imperative that every individual involved in the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of all involved, demonstrate exemplary behaviour and operate within an accepted ethical framework.

This not only ensures the sport of sailing makes a positive contribution to the development of young people, safeguards them and promotes their welfare but also protects all personnel from allegations of poor practice and abuse.

Copies of the Irish Sports Councils 'Code of Ethics' are available from the nominated Children's Officers, the Club office, the offices of the ISA and can be downloaded from the Irish Sports Council website ([www.irishsportsCouncil.ie](http://www.irishsportsCouncil.ie)). Leaflets providing guidelines on implementing the Code of Ethics are distributed to all parents attending the yearly parents briefing meeting. In the guideline leaflets are available from the Senior Instructor during junior training courses.

### **Children's Officers and Designated Liaison Person**

Children's Officers are appointed within clubs to act as a resource for children and represent them at Committee level. All ISA Training Centres and sailing schools must have a Children's Officer as set out in section 2.6.1 of the 'Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport in Ireland'.

A Designated Liaison Person is a person who is responsible for reporting allegations or suspicions of child abuse to the Statutory Authorities. This person will also be responsible for dealing with any concerns about the protection of young people.

All nominations for Children's Officers and Designated Persons in Sutton Dinghy Club will be reviewed and ratified through the General Committee and will also commit themselves to the Clubs Code of Conduct as part of this process.

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Sutton Dinghy Club will also ensure Children's Officers and Designated Persons have opportunity to attend and complete the recommended training as per guidelines laid out under the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport in Ireland.

### **Statutory Authorities**

Only the Gardai and Health Service Executive have the responsibility for the investigation and/or validation of suspected child abuse in the ROI.

In the event of a breach or suspected breach in the Code involving members or employees of Sutton Dinghy Club, contact should be made with one of the nominated Childrens Officers without delay.

Signed on behalf of the General Committee:

**Commodore:**

**Date**

