



Child Safeguarding Statement

County Sligo Surf Club is located in Strandhill, Co. Sligo. Our club provides surf coaching and progression training to many of its members. Sligo Surf Club is committed to safeguarding children and young people. Working under the guidance of our governing body Irish Surfing our Safeguarding Policies we 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 sports 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 must always ensure that children be treated with integrity and respect.
- Fair Play – All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play.
- Competition – competition 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.
- 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.

Risk Assessment

County Sligo Surf Club 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
Club and Coaching Practices Safety issues	Coach education policy - safeguarding training. Parental permission for communication and photos images required. Code of behaviour policy for all. Safety committee/coaches to assess weather conditions before surf training.
Complaints and Discipline	Follow the complaints and disciplinary procedures/policy.
Reporting Procedures Accidents/Incidents	Names of CCO and DLP distributed and on display in clubhouse. Clear reporting procedures re: policy. Guidance from Child Safeguarding and Code of Conduct/Behaviour Training.
Use of Facilities	Parental/Guardian supervision for Children. Gender specific changing areas. Coach education. No photography or video in changing areas. Any club social events Child Protection Policy to followed.
Communications	Child Safeguarding policy. Code of conduct. Complaints and procedures. Anti Bullying Policy.
General Risk of Harm	Safeguarding policy. Recruitment policy. Code of conduct.

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 10th July 2023

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children's First Act 2015, (Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 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.

County Sligo Surf Club has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- 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 or 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
- Procedures for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons in the organisation who are mandated (if any)
- Procedures for appointing a relevant person.

Children's Officer for Sligo Surf Club is Cathy Anne Brennan. Designated Liaison Person is Derek Parle

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.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 10th July 2026 or as soon as practical after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed on behalf of County Sligo Surf Club:

Date: 10th July 2024



Name:

Cathy Anne Brennan

Phone No: 087 930 2255

Child Protection Officer for CSSC

Derek Parle

Designated Liaison Person for CSSC