

Health and Safety Policy 2021



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1. Safety Policy

The Management of Ennis Hockey Club (EHC) are committed to compliance with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005, and the Safety Health and Welfare at Work (General Application Regulations 2007–2016 as amended. In doing so will provide for all members and associated parties, an environment that is as safe and healthy as is reasonably practical, and that will comply with all relevant statutory requirements. Through its committee and elected officers, EHC will endeavour to provide a safe system of operation through the provision of appropriate equipment, information, instruction, training and supervision. The co-operation of every member is mandatory, and members must at all times conduct themselves in a manner that does not endanger their safety or the safety of others. Where members are under the age of 18, their parents or guardian(s), must give this undertaking on their behalf. Coaches and Co-ordinators must ensure that there are adequate resources (suitable equipment and supervision) available for the activity that is being undertaken. Through Hockey Ireland, all Coaches and Coordinators will be Garda Vetted as required under The National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012. The Management must ensure that all Coaches and Co-ordinators attend a recognised 'Code of Ethics Safeguarding' course in respect of Good Practice for Children's Sport. The Safety Statement of EHC will be reviewed for suitability at least annually, and following any major change in structure or practices.

2. Child Protection Policy

EHC is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of its young participants. Every individual in hockey should at all times, show respect and understanding for participants' rights, safety and welfare and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the organisation and the guidelines contained in the Safeguarding Guidance for Children & Young People in Sport 2019. Our guiding principles and this guidance document are underpinned by national policy and legislation in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, and the requirements under The Children First Act 2015. In working with young people in hockey our first priority is the welfare of young people and we are committed to providing an environment that will allow participants to perform to the best of their ability, free from abuse, neglect, bullying and intimidation. A children's officer is in place and will advise and report directly to the committee on matters or issues that may arise

3. Club Structure

An elected committee is in place to oversee the running of the club. The committee will hold regular committee meetings to discuss the workings of the club. Each officer will report to this committee as required. Documented minutes of these meetings will be kept.

4. Grounds, Pitches and Changing Facilities

It is noted that EHC are tenants of the facility and the agreement dictates that maintenance, up-kept, security, car parking, access, egress and cleaning of all facilities are the responsibility of CBS School or the Planet. This in no way excuses EHC in their responsibilities to use the facility with respect and maintain it in a clean, tidy and good condition at all times. EHC will endeavour to notify CBS School or the Planet of H & S issues that may arise.

5. Implementation and Operation

To actively carry out the club's policy in relation to H & S, to maintain a general consciousness of safety and to promote a safe club environment, the following should be kept in place;

- Health & Safety will be on the agenda at committee meetings of the club, actions noted and recorded in the minutes.
- Giving safety instructions regularly all sections of the club.
- Reporting of accidents or dangerous occurrences action to prevent recurrence Identification of hazards and assessment of risks should be an ongoing process and any identified hazard or risk should be immediately reported a member of the Committee. The hazard or risk should be immediately assessed as 'high', 'medium' or 'low' and appropriate action taken. This is a very important aspect of our safety policy and it is expected that when an area is audited for safety, it will be found that any accidents, injuries, collisions, hazards, etc., will have been properly reported and documented.

6. Accidents and Near Misses

Appropriate medical kits will be available pitch side during training and matches to treat minor injuries. EHC will endeavour to have a trained first aider at training or fixtures at all times. An Accident is defined as an unplanned event that happens unexpectedly and unintentionally and that results in injury, illness or damage. A Near Miss is defined as an unplanned event that did not result in injury, illness, or damage – but that had the potential to do so. The Safety Officer should be notified in writing of an accident or near miss as soon as is practical to do so. Supporting documentation and evidence should be provided as deemed necessary. An incident report should be filled out for all accidents and near misses. Where it is possible that the accident will result in a claim under the club insurance policy then the incident report will be forwarded to our insurance company.

7. Personal protective equipment

Club policy is that all players to wear mouth guard and shin guards for their own safety when attending training or matches, but should your child choose not to or simply play without one then Ennis Hockey Club and the coaches cannot be held responsible should an injury occur. I agree to this and understand that my son/daughter should not participate in matches or training sessions without a personal protective equipment.

Ennis Hockey Club and coaches cannot be held responsible for injury to your child where they have chosen not to wear a mouth guard or play without one.

We do recommend to use contact lenses or special sport goggles for those that needs glasses.