



General Issues

- Shouting at or ridiculing children when they make a mistake. children should be given the opportunity to learn from their mistakes and develop.
- **When insufficient care is taken to avoid injuries (e.g. by excessive training or inappropriate training for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players).**
- Placing Children, Young People or Vulnerable Persons in potentially compromising and uncomfortable situations with adults (e.g. changing in a 1:1 situation with a coach).
- **Failing to adhere to the Club's codes of practice puts Managers ,Coaches & Volunteers at risk.**

Player Safety

It is the managers responsibility to ensure all players are safe on pitch during matches / training.

Shin guards must be worn at all times. Correct footwear must be worn. The condition of the playing surface must be a factor when allowing players to participate ie frozen , waterlogged, worn astro , glass , holes in playing surface.

No Marino AFC player is expected to participate on poor /dangerous surfaces.

Supervision of Children

It is important to create a safe and enjoyable environment in which to play and train and to ensure any risks . In relation to premises, training facilities and equipment are minimised with the implementation of appropriate safety rules. Children need to be supervised at all times as the likelihood of accidents happening increases when adequate supervision is not in place.

In particular the following should be adhered to;

- (a) Ensure adequate Adult: Child ratios.
- (b) There should be at least one adult of each gender with mixed parties.
- **(c) Children should be supervised at all times.**
- (d) Adults should avoid being left alone with Children. Clearly state times for start and finish of training and/or competitions. If late collections occur, participants should remain in pairs until all players have left.
- (e) If a coach/manager needs to talk separately to a player this should be done in an open environment, in view of others.
- (f) Respect the privacy of Children while changing, coaches/managers may only need to enter changing rooms where the Participants are very young or require special assistance. When necessary,

Participants should supervise in pairs or seek assistance, it is the safety and welfare of the Participants that is of paramount importance.

• (g) If a Child suffers an injury or accident the parents/guardians should be informed and necessary Club Incident Form is completed and forwarded to CWO.

- (i) Equipment and facilities should meet the highest possible standards and be appropriate to the maturity of the participants.
- (j) All FAI Goalpost Safety Guidelines must strictly be adhered to and enforced.

Goalposts:

Goalposts are to be staked on all occasions (matches/training) when used. Failure to stake the goalposts will invalidate the Club Insurance in the event of a claim arising from use of goalposts that are not securely staked. No child should be involved in carting / setting up goals of any size.

Transport of Children

- (a) Children being transported should have the permission of parents/guardians to do so.
- (b) Appropriate insurance should be in place by the transporter and duties conducted in accordance with relevant legislation including the use of seat belts.
- (e) **Personnel shall not allow themselves be alone with any one child when assisting with transport arrangements.**
- (g) Parents/guardians have a responsibility to ensure that they are fully aware of any transport arrangements and that they are happy with them.
- (h) Children should be collected promptly and it is a matter for parents/guardians to make any necessary arrangements.
- (k) **It is a matter for parents/guardians to arrange transport to events for children . This is highlighted in our Members Charter .**
- (l) If a private arrangement is made between parents/guardians they should be aware that there are extra responsibilities placed on persons who transport players to events.

Disclosure from Players / Child

All disclosures from children must be taken as fact and must be reported immediately .

Reporting of Incident to Club / Child Welfare Officer .

1. All incidents of possible / suspected welfare issues must be reported to Marino AFC Child Welfare Officer on Club Incident Form. This includes any injury to child .
2. All disclosures must be reported to CWO.
3. CWO will contact reportee / manager to discuss incident . CWO will make decision as how to proceed . First Step will be to offer mediation .
4. If CWO deems case to be of serious nature , a Child Notification report will be made to TUSLA . (This is only in extreme cases) .

5. CWO can issue an immediate step down order to any individual who they may view as a potential threat