



NEWTONMORE CAMANACHD CLUB

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

March 2017

Newtonmore Camanachd Club is fully aware that any sport such as shinty can and does have a very powerful and positive influence on children. As well as providing opportunities for enjoyment and achievement, it can also develop self-esteem, confidence, teamwork and leadership. We also acknowledge that these positive effects can only take place if the sport of shinty is led by adults/volunteers who place the well-being of children first and adopt practices that support and protect them.

The Club is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children in it's care at any Club organised event. We recognise the responsibility to promote safe practise and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. For the purpose of this policy and procedures a child is recognised as someone under the age of 18 years.

This document outlines the Newtonmore Camanachd Club commitment to protecting children and is based on the following principles:

- The welfare of children is the primary concern and the Club will work in partnership with parents/guardians /carers to promote the welfare, health and development of children.
- The Club has a Child Photography Policy agreed with Parents/Guardians.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm, abuse and discrimination.
- Children have the right to express views on all matters which affect them, should they wish to do so.
- The Club Child Protection Policy together with the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children is the responsibility of everyone at the Club

Newtonmore Camanachd Club will:

- Promote the health and welfare of children by providing opportunities for them to enjoy safe participation in shinty.
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of children.
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well-being of children and protect them from harm, abuse and discrimination.
- Recruit , train, support and supervise members, volunteers and coaches to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children from harm and abuse and reduce risk to themselves.
- Ensure members, volunteers and coaches understand, adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and Procedures as displayed in the clubhouse and on the club website.
- Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse of children in line with this Child Protection Policy and procedures.

- Observe guidelines issued by the Camanachd Association and relevant bodies such as Sport Scotland, High Life Highland and Children 1st.
- Monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy and procedures and review regular status reports from the Child Protection Officer.

Coaching of Children at Newtonmore Camanachd Club.

Newtonmore Camanachd Club will:

- Ensure that all adults/volunteers working with children at the Club are members of the Disclosure Scotland PVG (protection of vulnerable groups) Scheme. Volunteers who have PVG disclosure with another sport must complete an Existing PVG Member Application for shinty.
- Ensure prospective adults/volunteers working with Children at the Club are interviewed in person and details of previous experience of working/volunteering with Children noted.
- Ensure that prior to offering a prospective adult the position of working/volunteering with Children at the Club, his/her details are passed to the Camanachd Association who in turn will carry out a Disclosure Scotland check. Only on receipt of the necessary clearances can an individual be offered a coaching position.
- Ensure that once a decision has been made to offer a letter of appointment, the individual will be required to formally agree to the Clubs Child Protection Policy and procedures and a record of this appointment will be retained in the Club records with a copy forwarded to the Camanachd Association Child Protection Officer.
- Ensure that any appointment is based on an agreed probationary period.
- Ensure that all adults/volunteers working with children in the Club have attended "*Safeguarding Children in Sport*" training course.
- Ensure that adequate adults/volunteers working with children at the Club have completed First Aid Training to provide suitable cover at all club and training events. Only those with a current First Aid qualification should respond to any injuries.
- Ensure that all adults/volunteers working with children in the Club have attended the appropriate Sports Coaching training course.
- All adults working/volunteering with children at the Club will be made aware of the Club Child Protection Policy, the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children and the contact details for the Club Child Protection Officer.
- Any adults working/volunteering with children at the Club will be removed from unsupervised contact if we suspect or are aware they have caused harm to a child or to have placed them at risk of harm.
- Ensure that all adults/volunteers working with children at the Club are fully aware of the circumstances surrounding the above situation and any necessary re-training is carried out as matter of urgency. Full details will be submitted to the Camanachd Association Child Protection Officer.

- Ensure that suitable protective equipment is provided for all children participating in the sport of shinty, that it is worn during all training or Club events and that equipment such as clubs, balls, goals etc is safe to use and fit for purpose.
- Ensure that regular Risk Assessments are carried out & recorded, and that any risk to children, whether participating or spectating is immediately actioned.
- The Club Coaching Co-ordinator and/or Coaches will agree a collection policy with parents/carers which will include a clear and shared understanding of arrangements for collection of their child/children at the end of any club organised session. This will include consent for the child/children to go home unaccompanied.
- The Club Coaching Co-ordinator and/or Coaches will maintain an up to date record of contact numbers for parents/carers to be used in the event of a change of arrangements or late collection.
- When the session has finished, obligations that the Club has under Guidance, Good Practice and Legislation with regard to Club organised events still remain. The Club will have care and control of the child in the absence of a parent/carer or other responsible adult.