



Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club Child Safeguarding Statement

1. Name of Service being provided

Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club supports children of all ages to participate in playing wheelchair basketball activities in a safe and friendly environment. Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club has a NO TOLERANCE approach to harm or abuse towards children. The activities are managed by the team of volunteers and governed by the club committee structure. Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club is committed to ensuring that children and young people are free from harm or abuse when participating in our activities and events. The children who participate are supported by their parents to attend and their coaches plan and implement their activities.

2. Principles to Safeguarding Children from Harm or Abuse

The safety, welfare and development of children and young people are core objectives and key priorities for Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club. Everyone in our club has a responsibility and duty of care to ensure that each child/young person availing of our events/activities is safe and protected from harm (physical/emotional/sexual abuse or neglect). 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 Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club.
- **Requirements of the child** - All children's experiences should be guided by what is best for child. This means that adults should have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical and personal requirements of children and young people.
- **Integrity in relationships** - Adults interacting with children in Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of children and young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play** - All children's activities should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play in Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club should always be emphasised. Everyone organising and managing children's events/activities must adhere to our guidelines regarding acceptable behaviour.

- **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Children's events/activities must be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Competition** – Competition in Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club is an essential element of sport and 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.

The Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club Child Safeguarding Statement (CSS) and the policies and procedures outlined below applies to all volunteers and any person performing any role or function in, or on behalf of, Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club.

3. Risk Assessment

The Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club CSS has been developed following a safeguarding risk assessment process. The IWA-Sport NGB CSS states the corporate perspective on how the Association prevents harm to children availing of our events and activities and this Club CSS supports this corporate approach. Table 1.1 outlines the key areas that are subject to the risk assessments and the procedures in place to manage the identified risks.

Table 1.1

	Areas of Risk	Procedure in place to manage identified risk
1	Recruitment and selection	HR Recruitment Policies and Procedures Standard operating procedures setting out clear mandatory requirements for recruiting for children services/activities
2	Induction and training of Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club personnel working with children	HR Recruitment Policies and Procedures Mandatory Safeguarding Training requirements Standard operating procedures setting clear standards
3	Safeguarding awareness among all IWA personnel	IWA Mandatory Training Policy, Child Protection Policy, Code of Behaviour for Working with Children Standard procedures for implementing policies
4	Communications	Implementation of safeguarding policies, standards and protocols to all key stakeholders Child friendly versions of key policies being made available to children and their parents Photography Policy, Social Media Policy
5	Complaints	Customer Care Policy including formal procedures for reporting and responding to complaints Training of all personnel to respond to complaints
6	Reporting and responding to safeguarding concerns	Child Protection Policy providing protocol for reporting concerns Sharing of information and collaboration with statutory agencies implemented throughout the Child Protection Policy and Procedures Child Protection Policy communicated to all personnel and readily available through IWA Sharepoint system

7	Ensuring Safe Services	<p>Standard procedures in place setting out the requirements for working with children including ratios, gender balance, trips and travel, accommodation, use of facilities etc</p> <p>Code of Behaviour for Working with Children provides clear instruction and guidance for wide range of scenarios</p> <p>Communication processes in place ensuring all personnel are informed of their responsibilities when working with children</p> <p>Line management function in place ensuring supervision and support of all personnel who work with children</p>
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4. Procedures

IWA-Sport's policies and procedures aim to promote safe environments for children and young people; to lessen the potential for risk to arise; and to manage it safely where it does. In addition to the procedures outlined in the Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club Safeguarding Risk Assessment, the following policies and procedures support our intention to safeguard children:

- Recruitment policies and procedures to ensure the recruitment and selection of employees and volunteers who are suitable to work with children, including the IWA Garda vetting policy;
- Mandatory Safeguarding Training for all staff incorporating face-to-face and e-learning programmes;
- HR Policies and Procedures to investigate an allegation of abuse or misconduct made against employees or volunteers;
- Child Protection Policy and Procedure outlining the recognition and reporting procedures;
- Health and Safety Policy and Procedure to ensure all risks are identified and controlled to reduce the likelihood and impact of accidents or incidents;
- Services and activities are managed through Operations Manuals, policies and procedures and standard operating procedures to ensure a high standard of service is provided;
- IWA-Sport implements a process for maintaining a list of Mandated Persons in the Association;
- Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club has appointed a relevant person to be the first point of contact for this club CSS.

Implementation

Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club Committee Officials are responsible for ensuring that the policies and procedures outlined in this Club CSS are in place and operating effectively.

This Club Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 06/06/2025, or as soon as practicable if there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

For further information please contact Con Coughlan (Relevant Person for the Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports Club Child Safeguarding Statement) on (safeguarding.rebelwheelers@iwasport.com).

Signed by:


Paudie Lynch, Committee Chairperson

Date:



