Triathlon Ireland Clubs Safeguarding Risk Assessment Document updated November 2026

Cobh Triathlon Club

This risk assessment considers the potential for harm to come to children whilst they are in ***Cobh Triathlon club's*** care. This risk assessment precedes the Child Safeguarding Statement (Section 11 (1b) Children First Act 2015) which is developed following this risk assessment process. In accordance with the requirements of Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015 the risk is of abuse and not general health and safety risk (covered under a separate H&S policy and risk assessment).

Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015 states that where a person proposes to operate as a provider of a relevant service, he or she shall, within 3 months from the date on which he or she commences as such a provider —

(a) Undertake an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of the service (in this section referred to as a "risk").

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Further action required
CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES				
Lack of appropriate coaching qualification	low	▪ Safe Recruitment policy ▪ Safety Guidelines for club sessions document.	Club Committee Head Coach Club Children's Officer	Coaches and Leaders names and TI numbers to be sent to TI. CCO to maintain a list of those involved with juniors, their Safeguarding requirements and proof of qualification.
Supervision issues/inappropriate ratios	Medium	▪ Supervision ratio policy ▪ Safety Guidelines for club sessions document.	Club Committee Head Coach Club Children's Officer	Ensure Role Clarity Ongoing review after each session

Unauthorised photography & recording activities	High	▪ Photography & Filming policy. ▪ Social Media Policy. ▪ Code of Conduct.	Club committee Club Children's officer Social Media Officer	Ensure policies are accessible, promoted and distributed. Ongoing review
Behavioural Issues (Coaches, volunteers, juniors.)	High	▪ Code of Conduct ▪ Complaints & Disciplinary policy ▪ Coach/leader education - SG1/Safeguarding Children & Young People in Sport.	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Triathlon Ireland	All adults working with juniors to sign a code of conduct and complete Sport Ireland/Sport NI safeguarding training. All juniors and parents/carers are subject to codes of conduct, Ongoing review
Lack of gender balance amongst coaches	Medium	▪ Supervision guidance. ▪ Safety Guidelines for club sessions document.	Club Committee Club Children's Officer	Recruit additional volunteers to be present at junior sessions to meet gender balance where required.
No guidance for travelling and away trips	LOW	▪ Traveling and overnight trips policy. ▪ Coach/leader training - SG1. ▪ Vetting policy.	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Club Coach travelling.	Parents attend with children travelling to events. No overnight trips with our Junior club Ongoing review
Lack of adherence with misc. procedures in Safeguarding policy (i.e. social media, photography, transport)	HIGH	▪ Complaints & Disciplinary policy. ▪ Safeguarding policy. ▪ Code of Conduct.	Club Committee Club Children's Officer	Develop club specific policies & procedures to address low level concerns. Seek advice where required.

Use of External Coaches	LOW	▪ Safe Recruitment policy ▪ Safety Guidelines for club sessions document. ▪ Self declaration document. ▪ Code of Conduct.	Club Committee Head Coach Club Children's Officer	Coaches names and TI numbers to be sent to TI (TI number required to be vetted - site user is adequate) CCO to maintain a list of those involved with juniors, their Safeguarding requirements and proof of qualification.
COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE				
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	Medium	▪ Safeguarding policy. ▪ Reporting & Communications Procedure. ▪ Complaints & Disciplinary policy	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Triathlon Ireland.	Immediate action needed Greater communication required within the club to ensure complaints & disciplinary policy is accessible. Regular reviews and meetings
Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent Lack of awareness of reporting procedures.	Medium	▪ Complaints & Disciplinary policy. ▪ Reporting & Communications procedure. ▪ Post names of CCO, DLP, MP. on club website ▪ Reporting portal.	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person.	Review the communication of the reporting procedure/policy and establish a mechanism for distribution. Publicise identity of CCO, DLP and TI MP using the TI provided poster template. Promote the TI online reporting form.
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	LOW	▪ Complaints & Disciplinary policy ▪ Reporting & Communications procedures.	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person.	Immediate action required. All complaints should be recorded and passed on where applicable. Consult with TI NCO and escalate where appropriate.

REPORTING PROCEDURES				
Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures	low	▪ Reporting & Communications procedures. ▪ Safe Recruitment Policy ▪ Coach/leader training - SG1. ▪ Code of Conduct	TI National Children's Officer TI Mandated Person Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person	Make policies and procedures available and include in the induction process for new Coaches/Leaders/Members. Ensure Coaches/Leaders have completed Safeguard 1/Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport. Promote the TI online reporting form.
Lack of awareness of reporting to TI - procedures and contact for the Mandated Person.	low	▪ Reporting & Communications Procedure.	Triathlon Ireland Club Committee	Publicise identity of Mandated Person on the poster template provided to clubs. Promote the TI online reporting form.
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	low	▪ Reporting procedures/policy ▪ Coach/leader training - SG1.	Designated Liaison Person Mandated Person	Club ensures all those dealing with juniors have completed Safeguard training to create awareness of types of concerns to report. Publicise names of CCOs, DLPs, MP. Publicise internal and external reporting procedures
Not clear for Young Person or parents/carers who they should talk to or report to	medium	▪ Post the names of Club Children's Officer, Designated Liaison Person and TI Mandated Person. ▪ Safeguarding Policy.	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person. Triathlon Ireland	Communicate within Club. Ensure Safeguard training is completed by those working with juniors. Include information in the recruitment and induction process for new coaches/leaders. Included in membership information. Inform new Junior members and parents on starting in the club.

				Provide opportunities for juniors to meet CCO and DLP. Promote the TI online reporting form.
FACILITIES				
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	HIGH	▪ Photography & Filming Policy.	Club Children's Officer Club Coach Club Committee Event Safeguard Lead	Enforce policy in private changing areas and pool decks. Ensure policy and guidance is circulated in advance. Make policy accessible for members & guests. Report any suspicious activity.
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.	HIGH	▪ Safeguarding policy ▪ Supervision policy	Club Coach Club Children's Officer Club Committee	Plan with facilities management to create a suitable child centred environment in shared facilities. Ensure supervision by qualified volunteers/coaches or parents.
RECRUITMENT				
Recruitment of inappropriate people	HIGH	▪ Safe Recruitment policy ▪ Safeguarding Policy ▪ Vetting Policy	Triathlon Ireland Club Committee Club Children's Officer	Ensure a comprehensive induction & period of supervision for new Coaches/leaders. Ensure safe recruitment policy is followed. Promote a culture of reporting in the club to ensure a predator who is volunteering in the club is not given access to children. Ongoing review.

Lack of clarity on roles	Medium	▪ Safe Recruitment policy ▪ Safety Guidelines for Club Sessions document.	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Club Head Coach	Role clarified during the induction process and prior to each session. Review following induction period.
Unqualified or untrained people in role	High	▪ Safe Recruitment policy	Club Committee	Comprehensive induction Check with Triathlon Ireland to confirm qualification, safeguarding information and insurance information or requirements. Ongoing review
COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA				
Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors	High	▪ Child Safeguarding Statement ▪ Coach/leader training-SG1. ▪ Safe Recruitment Policy	Triathlon Ireland Club Committee Club Children's Officer Event Safeguard Lead Event Organiser	Circulate Child Safeguarding Statement. Make Safeguarding Policy accessible. Induction for those helping as a 'once off' at events. Ongoing review.
No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Behaviour to members & visitors	High	▪ Safeguarding Policy ▪ Display Child Safeguarding Statement. ▪ Code of Conduct	Club Committee Children's Officer Event Safeguard Lead. Event Organiser	Circulate Child Safeguarding Statement to club members, coaches and leaders Distribute Code Conduct to club members, coaches and leaders Ongoing review.
Unauthorised photography & recording of activities	High	▪ Photography and Filming policy ▪ Code of Conduct ▪ Social Media Policy	Triathlon Ireland Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person Event Safeguard Lead.	Make Photography & Filming Policy available at events where non-members may be in attendance. Circulate policy and guidance in advance where possible.

		▪ Complaints and disciplinary policy.	Event Organiser	Intervene if there is suspicious activity for example someone not connected to the event filming or taking images of young people. Report where required. Ongoing review.
Inappropriate use of social media and communications by Under 18's	High	▪ Code of conduct ▪ Social Media guidance for juniors.	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person.	Education piece for club juniors highlighting the TI social media guidance. Parents consent is requested in advance for any social media post with Junior members involved. Ongoing re view
Inappropriate use of social media and communications between adults and Under 18's	High	▪ Complaints & disciplinary policy ▪ Code of conduct. ▪ Social Media Policy ▪ Coach/leader training - SG1.	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person TI NCO	Publicise Social Media Policy. Outline guidance for communication with junior athletes via their parents/carers. Ensure club social media content is appropriate for junior members. Consult with TI NCO. Ongoing review
GENERAL RISK OF HARM				
Harm not being recognised	High	▪ Safeguarding policy ▪ Safeguarding training policy	Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person.	Ensure Safeguard training is up to date. Informal consult with Tusla Ongoing review.

Harm caused by - child to child - adult to child	High	▪ Safeguarding policy ▪ Coach/leader training-SG1. ▪ Codes of Conduct. ▪ Safe Recruitment Policy. ▪ Communication & Reporting Processes.	Triathlon Ireland NCO &MP Club Committee Club Children's Officer Designated Liaison Person	Informal consult with Tusla Leader and coach supervision Report to statutory authorities. Report to TI Mandated Person. Ongoing review
General behavioural issues	High	▪ Code of Conduct ▪ Complaints and Disciplinary Procedures.	Triathlon Ireland Club Committee Club Children's Officer.	Ensure all coaches/leaders/volunteers have signed a code of conduct. Take disciplinary action where necessary. Develop procedure for managing lower level concerns at club level

This Risk Assessment document has been discussed and completed by *Cobh Triathlon Club* on *2nd November 2026*

Name: Tom Moore	Name: Ali Dorgan
Signed: 	Signed: 
Role: Club Chairperson	Role: Club Children's Officer
Date: 3/11/26	Date:

Explanation of terms used:

- Potential risk of harm to children – these are identified risks of harm to children whilst accessing activities in the Club/Region/Province/NGB.
- Likelihood of harm happening – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the club/region/NGB measured by you as Low/Medium or High.
- Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document – indication of the policy required to alleviate the risk.
- Responsibility – provider should indicate where the responsibility for alleviating the risk lies.
- Further action… - indicates further action that might be necessary to alleviate any risk ongoing

TI = Triathlon Ireland
DLP = Designated Liaison Person – refers to club position
CCO = Club Children's Officer

SG1= Safeguard 1 Course.
NCO = National Children's Officer- refers to TI position
MP = Mandated Person - refers to TI position

Event Safeguard Lead = Person named on Event Management plan responsible for Safeguarding at junior races.