

# Ballinderreen Hurling and Camogie Club

## CODE OF CONDUCT



### Guidelines for Parents, Guardians, Supporters, Young Players, Coaches and Volunteers and Adult Players

The content presented in this code of conduct has been adapted from the Gaelic Games Underage Code of Behaviour

(<https://www.gaa.ie/the-gaa/child-safeguarding-and-protection/code-of-behaviour>) and overall values and principles of Gaelic games and the Ballinderreen Club. These include: **inclusivity, lifelong participation, quality coaching experiences, connection, community and being player centred.**

All of our players, coaches and members should strive to develop and show six key characteristics; **passion, respect, responsibility, commitment, creativity and resilience.**

Please note: the content below represents elements of the Gaelic Games Underage Code of Behaviour. By registering with the club, you are signing up to the full code of conduct in its entirety.

## **SECTION 1: Parents and Guardians**

### **PARENTS / GUARDIANS should encourage their child to:**

- Play by the rules and take part in all games and training that they are available for.
- Improve their skills levels and live a healthy lifestyle.
- Appreciate everybody on their team, regardless of ability.

### **PARENTS / GUARDIANS / SUPPORTERS should lead by example:**

- Always follow the clubs Give Respect Get Respect policy and lead by example when engaging with players, officials, management, coaches and other supporters.
- Respect officials' decisions and encourage children to do likewise.
- Do not exert undue pressure on your child or admonish your own child or any other child for their standard of play.
- Be realistic in their expectations.
- Show approval for effort, not just results.
- Never embarrass a child or use sarcastic remarks towards a player.
- Applaud good play from all teams and focus on improvements.
- Do not seek to unfairly affect a game or player.
- Do not enter the field of play or play area or dressing room area unless invited to do so by an official in charge.
- Understand and use the club's lines of communication/escalation policy to deliver feedback, positive or negative. (Escalation Policy: the Coach, then Manager, Coaching Officer or Children's Officer, Chairperson).
- Communication must always be in a respectful manner.
- Be aware that there will be fundraising and other events for the benefit of the club during the year and will endeavour to assist with and contribute to these events as they arise.
- Do not use foul or abusive behaviour at any club event/activity.

## **SECTION 2:**

### **YOUNG PLAYERS should always:**

- Have access to a safe, developmental, enjoyable coaching environment.
- Play fairly, do their best and enjoy themselves.
- Respect fellow team members regardless of ability, ethnic origin, cultural background or religion.
- Support fellow team members whether they do well or not so well.
- Represent their team, their club and their family with pride and dignity.
- Respect all coaches, mentors, officials and their opponents.
- Be gracious in defeat and modest in victory.
- Shake hands before and after the game irrespective of the result.
- Inform their coach/mentor/manager when they are unavailable for training and games.
- Talk to the Club Children's Officer with any concerns or questions they may have.
- Tell somebody else if they or others have been harmed in any way.
- Take due care of club equipment.

### **YOUNG PLAYERS should not:**

- Cheat – always play by the rules.
- Shout at or argue with an official, teammates or opponents or use violence.
- Use unfair or bullying tactics to gain advantage or isolate other players.
- Spread rumours or use social media to talk about teammates, coaches, referees or anyone else in the club.
- Tell lies about adults or other young people.
- Play or train if they feel unwell or are injured.
- Use unacceptable language against anyone in the club or racial and/or sectarian references.

### SECTION 3:

#### Club, Coaches and other Volunteers must adhere to the code of conduct below:

- The club should lead by example and ensure that a user friendly and child centred approach is adopted in all work with young people and that equal opportunities are available for all to participate in our games and activities, regardless of an individual's ability.
- All coaches must have Garda vetting and relevant Child Protection Courses completed **BEFORE** coaching juvenile players.
- Ensure that coaches are appropriately qualified by gaining the relevant coaching accreditation for your particular level (coaches only).
- Afford meaningful playing time to young players so as to assist in the development of their playing skills, within their own age groups. Management/Coaches are advised to play as many friendly games as possible to assist development.
- Remember that as a coach of an 'age-grade team' you are acting 'in loco parentis' and that you have a duty of care to all players.
- Lead by example – young people need a coach/adult they can respect as a Role Model.
- Be generous with your praise and never ridicule, shout at players for making mistakes or losing a match.
- Teach the players that the Laws of the Game are mutual agreements which no one should evade or break.
- Commit and adhere to the principles and rules of Go-games.
- Be reasonable in your demands on the players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Encourage respect for all participants – teammates and opponents, as well as match officials.
- Create a safe and enjoyable environment in which to train and play.
- Always follow professional medical advice in determining when an injured player is ready to play again.
- Develop policies for your club / team to agree procedures regarding discipline, injury prevention and treatment, team selection etc.
- Understand and use the clubs lines of communication/escalation policy to deliver feedback, positive or negative. (Escalation Policy: the Coach, then Manager, Coaching Officer or Children's Officer, Chairperson).
- Be responsible and ensure you uphold the ethos of the game and Gaelic Games.
- Support the Child Welfare Policy and all policies regarding Children in Sport.
- Be aware that there will be fundraising and other events for the benefit of the club during the year and will endeavour to assist with and contribute to these events as they arise.
- Management and coaches should hold a start of season information session with parents to outline plans for the coming season.
- Assist with coaching and games initiatives within the club.

## **SECTION 4:**

### **Adult Players**

- Remember that as an adult player, younger players look up to you so **lead by example** and be a good Role Model.
- Be mindful of imagery and messages shared publicly that are linked to the club.
- Maintain a healthy lifestyle and avoid risky behaviours. Seek help where appropriate through the club network.
- Adult players are encouraged to take responsibility for the future of our club by helping out with the Underage coaching and player development, and other club activities, such as fundraising.
- Encourage respect for all participants – teammates and opponents, as well as match officials.
- Understand and use the clubs lines of communication to deliver feedback, positive or negative.
- Be responsible and ensure you uphold the ethos of the game and Gaelic Games.
- Play fairly, do their best and enjoy themselves.
- Respect fellow team members regardless of ability, ethnic origin, cultural background or religion.
- Support fellow team members whether they do well or not so well.
- Represent their team, their club and their family with pride and dignity.
- Respect all coaches, mentors, officials and their opponents.
- Be gracious in defeat and modest in victory.
- Shake hands before and after the game irrespective of the result.
- Inform their coach/mentor/manager when they are unavailable for training and games.
- Take due care of club equipment.

### **PLAYERS should not:**

- Cheat – always play by the rules.
- Shout at or argue with an official, teammates or opponents or use violence.
- Use unfair or bullying tactics to gain advantage or isolate other players.
- Spread rumours or use social media to take about teammates, coaches, players or others within the club.
- Tell lies about adults or young people.
- Play or train if they feel unwell or are injured.
- Use unacceptable language or racial and/or sectarian references.