

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YOUNG PLAYERS AND PARENTS

Guidelines for Young Players

Geevagh GAA wish to provide the best possible environment for all young players involved in Gaelic Football, Hurling, Camogie, Ladies Gaelic Football and any other events run by this club. Young players deserve to be given enjoyable, safe sporting opportunities, free of abuse of any kind. These players have rights, which must be respected, and responsibilities that they must accept.

Young players are entitled to:

- Be safe and to feel safe
- Be listened to and be believed
- Be treated with respect, dignity and sensitivity
- Have a voice in the club / organisation
- Participate on an equal basis
- Have fun and enjoy sport
- Experience competition at a level at which they feel comfortable
- Make complaints and have them dealt with
- Get help against bullies
- Say No
- Protect their own bodies
- Confidentiality, where possible

Young players should always:

- Treat all mentors (coaches, managers, selectors, club officials etc.,) with respect
- Play fairly
- Respect team members - even when things go wrong
- Respect opponents - be gracious in defeat
- Abide by the rules set down by team managers when travelling to away events
- Behave in a manner that avoids bringing the sport into disrepute
- Talk to children's officer if they have any problems (Teresa O'Rourke)

Young players should never:

- Cheat
- Use violence or physical contact that is not allowed within the rules
- Shout or argue with officials, team mates or opponents
- Harm team members, opponents or their property
- Bully or use bullying tactics or to isolate another player
- Use unfair or bullying tactics to gain advantage
- Take banned substances
- Tell lies about adults / other players
- Spread rumours

Guidelines for Parents

Geevagh GAA believes that parents should:

- Be a role model for your child and maintain the highest standards of conduct when interacting with children, other parents, officials and organizers
- Always behave responsibly and do not seek to unfairly affect the game or a player
- Never intentionally expose any young players to embarrassment or disparagement by the use of flippant or sarcastic remarks
- Always recognise the value and importance of the volunteers who provide sporting/recreational opportunities for your child. Do not publicly question the judgment or honesty of referees, coaches or organisers. Respect referees, coaches, organisers and other players
- Encourage your child to play by the rules. Teach your child that honest endeavor is as important as winning and do all you can to encourage good sportsmanship
- Set a good example by applauding good play on both sides. Encourage mutual respect for teammates and opponents
- Parents should support all efforts to remove abusive behaviour and bullying behaviour in all its forms
- Know the start and finish times of training - ensure that you arrive at the end of training
- Volunteer when possible to assist with training - helping with equipment, in dressing rooms, at games, when traveling to games

Parents Code of Conduct:

1. I will respect the rules and procedures set down in the Geevagh GAA's Code of Conduct.
2. I will respect my child's teammates, mentors (e.g. managers, coaches, selectors) and parents, as well as players, parents and coaches from opposing teams. I will encourage my child to treat other players, coaches, selectors, and managers with respect.
3. I will give encouragement and applaud positive accomplishments whether from my child, his/her teammates, their opponents or the officials.
4. I will respect all officials and their authority during matches.
5. I will never demonstrate threatening or abusive behaviour or use foul language.

Parents Name: _____

Name of Child/(ren) _____

_____ Date _____