

Code for Parents/ Guardians

Parents/ Guardians play a key role in the promotion of an ethical approach to sport and young people's enjoyment in sport. Parents/guardians therefore need to be aware, informed and involved in promoting the safest possible environment for children to enjoy their participation in our sport. Sports Leaders need the support of parents/guardians in conveying the Safe, Fun and Fair Play message.

You should help and support the implementation of best practice policies in Irish Surfing and your club by following the guidance below.

- Become members and contribute your time and effort in the daily running of your club and Irish Surfing; no sports organisation can operate successfully and safely without the help of volunteers.
- Understand and ensure your child/children abide by the Code.
- Be available for specified duties if and when required; some duties are mandatory and form part of the procedures for safeguarding your children; some will be at the request of your club and Irish Surfing.
- Have an awareness of and respect for Leaders and other adults and their roles within your club and Irish Surfing.
- If you wish to raise an issue with a Leader this should be addressed with the Leader in an appropriate manner and not in front of children and young people.
- Respect and abide by the decisions made by Leaders in your club and Irish Surfing, these should be made in the best interests of the children.
- Understand the complaints process and follow the proper procedure if you feel unjustly treated, with the knowledge that any complaint will be dealt with effectively and confidentially.
- Know your child's activity schedule, and accept it is your responsibility for delivering and collecting your child/children. Parents/guardians should ensure they do not leave their child/children waiting unsupervised at any time.
- Ensure the environment is safe and enjoyable for your child/children.
- Promote fair play and the positive aspects of sport.

- Be a role model for your children and young people by maintaining the highest standards of personal conduct and respectful behaviour in any activity related to our sport.
- Allow your child to focus their efforts and success in terms of their goals rather than winning being the main objective.
- Promote participation for children that is fun, safe and in the spirit of fair play.
- Ensure appropriate leaders are informed regarding any absenteeism, medical conditions or other relevant matters concerning your child.
- Arrange an appropriate time and place for discussing any matter with leaders and coaches; communication should not take place whilst leaders and coaches are in a position of supervision or responsible for other young people.
- You should have the opportunity to put forward suggestions and comments in your club and Irish Surfing.
- Provide Irish Surfing and your club with accurate and appropriate information in relation to your child to ensure their safe inclusion in the club and with emergency contact information and to be reasonably available in case of emergency.
- Abide by our procedures and policies especially with regard to the use of smart phones, any type of camera and videoing equipment.
- Be aware and abide by the safeguarding policy, the rules and constitution of Irish Surfing and the rules and constitution of your own Club.