

Dun Laoghaire Chess Club

Child Safeguarding Statement

Section 1 – name of club.

Dun Laoghaire Chess Club is located at 3 Eblana Avenue, Dun Laoghaire (the premises of the Eblana Club).

Section 2 – nature of services being provided.

Our club convenes on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 for designated Club Nights. Club Nights provide the main forum for all members (including junior members) to participate in chess activities. Club members also participate in Leinster league matches with other clubs at home and away. The vast majority of our members are adults and are male. We do not have a junior section, nor do we offer organised coaching to children. That said, junior members are welcome to join our club. We typically only have a very small number of junior members from time to time (in or around 5 on average). The few junior members who join our club tend to be talented and ambitious in their chess, and normally keen to play for us in the Leinster league.

Section 3 - Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to children while attending our club. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and details of how that risk will be managed.

| Risk Identified | Procedure in place to manage risk identified |
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| Unaccompanied children being exposed to inappropriate behaviour at club nights. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. For children aged 14 and over, parents must sign a consent form explicitly consenting to their child attending the chess club unaccompanied.2. For children under the age of 14, parents must sign a consent form in which they commit to remain present in the club while their child is there.3. The club will introduce a code of ethics to seek to ensure that all members always behave in an appropriate manner. |
| Young people (14-18 yrs.) arriving at and departing from the club unaccompanied. | The Parental Responsibilities Form will require parents to commit to liaising with the Designated Person in order to arrange a plan for the safe arrival and departure of the young person from the club. |

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| Children travelling to and from Leinster league matches | If parents are happy to permit their child to travel to league matches with other team members, then they can consent to this through the Parental Consent Form. It is the club's policy, however, than a junior member should never spend time alone with an adult member of the club. |
| Social media risks. | No photographs or other images of a junior member shall be posted or circulated by the club (either to its website or on any social media) without the consent of the child's parents. |

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 11 December 2024.

Section 4 – Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, *(the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice (if all-island Club/Organisation/NGB, insert equivalent in NI)).*

The Designated Person for Dun Laoghaire Chess Club is Dermot O'Reilly.

Section 5 – Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

This statement will be included on our website.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was approved at a committee meeting on 23rd April 2025
It will be reviewed by the Committee in Nov 2025.

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, contact Dermot O'Reilly (the Designated Person) at oreillyder@gmail.com