



NEWTOWN G.A.A. JUVENILE PLAYERS

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

The code of behaviour addresses the minimum appropriate behaviour, practice and conduct required from all our young players, coaches, mentors, supporters, parents/guardians, referees and Clubs.

It is important that all our young players are valued and treated with the highest level of respect throughout these important years of development, and their participation in sport should enable them to develop personally, physically and socially. **Newtown GAA** believes that a child centred approach should be adopted by everyone involved in the promotion and development of Gaelic Games at underage level.

Newtown GAA recognise we have a responsibility to safeguard the interests and wellbeing of any children/youths involved in our games, and will take all reasonable steps to protect young people within our Club from harm, discrimination or degrading treatment, and to maintain the professionalism, standards and reputation of the GAA.

In order for **Newtown GAA** to uphold and maintain our Club Code of Behaviour we will require for

all players, parents/guardians, mentors, coaches and club officials to see this Code developed, promoted and implemented as an initiative that encourages play, respect, equality, safety and no discrimination in all respects within our Club.

Any breaches of the Codes will be dealt with in a fair and impartial manner with the presumption of innocent maintained until otherwise proven. If the alleged is under 18 no formal meetings will take place with that person without the presence or permission of a parent/guardian.

Young players shall 'sign up' to this Code and agree to abide by the contents of the '**Code of Behaviour**' and to any other policies or codes in **Newtown GAA** and National Governing Body.

There are several **Codes of Behaviour** within **Newtown GAA**

- **Club Member Code of Behaviour**
- **Coaches Code of Behaviour**
- **Adult Player Code of Behaviour**
- **Parent/Guardian Code of Behaviour**
- **Visiting Club Code of Behaviour**



*All the above **Codes** are available for any club member on request

All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously, will be responded to swiftly and in an appropriate manner as per the set down guidelines within the club and set out by our National Governing Body.

The Code of Behaviour is promoted by the GAA, our National Governing Body

Young players can benefit greatly from sports in terms of enjoyment, personal development, and learning new skills. Players must be encouraged to realise that due to their participation they also have a responsibility to treat others with fairness and respect. In order for our Club to help each child reach their full potential on and off the pitch we require every parent/guardian and child to familiarise themselves and adhere to the following 'Codes of Behaviour'.

Please read the Code of Behaviour with your child, taking time to make sure each child understands fully their rights and responsibilities.

YOUNG PLAYERS should be entitled to:

- Be safe and feel safe
- Have fun and experience a sense of enjoyment and fulfilment
- Be treated equally with respect, dignity and sensitivity
- Make suggestions in a constructive manner
- Participate in games and competitions at levels they feel comfortable with
- Make their concerns known and for their concerns to be dealt with in an appropriate manner
- Be protected from abuse
- Be listened to

YOUNG PLAYERS should always:

- Play fairly, do their best and enjoy themselves
- Respect fellow team members regardless of ability, cultural background or religion
- Support fellow team members whether they do well or not
- 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 opponents hand before and after the game irrespective of the result
- Inform in good time their coach/mentor/manager if they are unavailable for games or training
- Talk to the Clubs Children's Officer with any concerns or questions they may have
- Take due care of Club equipment
- Accept and adhere to their Club Code of Discipline



YOUNG PLAYERS should never:

- Cheat, always play by the rules
- Shout at or argue with a games official, with their coach, their teammates or opponents.
- Never use violence
- Use unfair or bullying tactics to gain advantage or isolate other players
- Tell lies about other young people or adults
- Play or train if injured or unwell
- Use unacceptable language.

Please cut out this panel and return it to your Clubs Children's Officer or member of the Club Executive.

I _____ (print name) acknowledge that I received a copy of the Code of Behaviour which I have read and understand, on my own behalf and on behalf of my child. I agree to be bound by the principles set out in the Code when playing, attending or participating in our Gaelic games.

_____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Child