



NEWTOWN G.A.A. PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF BEHAVIOUR/BEST PRACTISE

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 innocence 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.

Parents/Guardians 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/Best Practise**
- **Adult Player Code of Behaviour**
- **Parent/Guardian Code of Behaviour/Best Practise**
- **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

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Parents/Guardians have an influential role to play in assisting and encouraging their children to fully participate in Gaelic Games, whether by playing our games or attending training or coaching sessions. In common with coaches and Club personnel the parents/guardians should act as role models for their children as they participate in **Newtown GAA** games and activities.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS have the right to:

- Know their child is safe and to make a complaint if they believe their child's safety is in any way compromised
- Be informed of problems/concerns relating to their child
- Be informed if their child gets injured
- Complain if they have a concern about the standard of coaching
- Have a say in relation to decisions being made within the club

In order for **Newtown GAA** to help your child benefit fully from all games and activities in the Club we would encourage all Parents/Guardians to assist the Club and team Coaches in implementing the Code of Behaviour and encourage their child/children to:

- Always play by the rules
- Improve their skill levels
- Appreciate everybody on their team regardless of ability
- Maintain a balanced and healthy lifestyle with regard to exercise, food, rest and play. Advice may be sought if necessary from Club officials on this issue

PARENTS/GUARDIANS should lead by example:

- Adopt a positive to their children's participation in our games.
- Respect officials' decisions and encourage children to do likewise.
- Do not exert undue pressure on your child
- Never admonish your child or any other child for their standard of play
- Show approval for effort, not just results
- Applaud good play from all teams and players
- Do not criticise playing performances. Identify how improvements may be made
- Do not enter the field of play unless specifically invited to do so by an official in charge



PARENTS/GUARDIANS should:

- Complete and return the registration/permission, medical and Code of Behaviour forms for their child's participation in the Club
- Inform the coaches, and any other relevant Club personnel, of any change in their child's medical or dietary requirements prior to coaching sessions or games.
- Ensure that their child punctually attends coaching sessions/games or other activities
- Ensure that the necessary nutrition/hydration and hygiene needs to participate in training/games or other activities are met.
- Listen to what their child has to say
- Show approval whether the team wins, loses or draws a game
- Show appreciation to volunteers, mentors and Club officials
- Attend training and games on a regular basis
- Assist in the Organising of Club activities and events as requested

PLEASE CUT OUT THIS PANEL AND RETURN IT TO YOUR CLUBS CHILDRENS OFFICER , TEAM MANAGER OR OTHER MEMBER OF THE CLUB EXECUTIVE.

I _____ (print name) acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Code of Behaviour/Best Practise, which I have read and understand in full. I agree to be bound by the principles set out in the Code when participating, playing or attending our Gaelic Games.

Signed: _____ Date: _____