

Crossmolina Deel Rovers

C.L.G. Chrois Mhaoilíona, 2018



Code of Conduct Policy Statement

DeelRovers GAA Club is fully committed to safeguarding the well- being of its members. We encourage “best practice” in the playing of our games and we are committed to providing an environment and ethos which will at all times, show respect and understanding for members rights safety and welfare.

Young players in particular, deserve to be given enjoyable, safe sporting opportunities, free of abuse in any form. These players have rights which must be respected, and have rules that as members, they must accept.

Generalised Code of Conduct and Best Practice

The DeelRovers Code of Conduct and Best Practice is available to all members on joining our club. The code is in accordance with the guidelines produced by the GAA in their “Best Code of Practice for Youth Sport”, approved for use by the Irish Sports Council.

The achievement of “Best Practice” is dependent on;

- The development of skill and well- being through the playing, coaching and promotion of our games.
- The adoption of the principles of fair play and good behaviour at all times
- The development of a positive, constructive, supportive and encouraging team environment.
- Maximising the sense of achievement, fun and participation in order to develop players to their full potential.

DeelRovers is founded on the core values of mutual respect, valuing each person, and support and encouragement among team members, managers, coaches, mentors, parents and other members of the club.

Our coaching resources and activities are firmly rooted in the local community. We are committed to providing an environment that promotes a sense of belonging in our club and an ethos that will allow players to perform to the best of their ability, free from bullying and intimidation.

Inappropriate behaviour (as laid out in the Code of Conduct) by any member of the club (or any person associated with the club) that undermines these values is unacceptable and will be considered in breach of the Club's Code of Conduct. Such behaviour will be subject to disciplinary sanction as deemed fit by the Executive Committee.

The Code of Conduct and Best Practice forms part of our club's ethos and as such, it is part of the rules and regulations that bind the operation of the club and its members.

All persons associated with DeelRovers are expected to uphold and promote this ethos in all roles that they undertake on behalf of and as members as DeelRovers.

Code of Conduct and Best Practice for Youth Sport

Policy Statement – MENTORS

A balanced approach to competition can make a significant contribution to the development of young players, while at the same time providing fun, enjoyment and satisfaction. If competition demands are placed on young players too early, excessive levels of pressure and anxiety are placed on them. Often this results in a high level of drop out from the sport. Club mentors should place the welfare of the person, and retention of players first and foremost.

Code of Conduct

Crossmolina DeelRovers GAA Club recognises the key role mentors play in the lives and development of young players.

Team coaches, managers, selectors and mentors can ensure that our sport has a beneficial impact when they adhere to the following principles;

Treatment of players;

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every player and treat each player equally, regardless of age, gender, ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, social background or ability.
2. Encourage the development of respect of opponents, officials, selectors and other coaches.
AVOID CRITICISM OF MENTORS AND OFFICIALS
3. Be positive during coaching sessions so that participants leave with sense of well-being and achievement
4. Be generous with praise and never ridicule or shout at players for making mistakes.
5. Avoid the "Star" system. Each player deserves equal time, opportunity and attention.
6. Never equate losing with failure.
7. Never use any form of physical force or verbal punishment.
8. Never use provocative language.
9. Ensure that all personnel, players & management, connected with the team do not speak to another person in a manner that threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults.

Safety & Protection:

1. Avoid working alone with young people at all times. At least TWO adults must be in attendance at all times for all activities. If this is not possible, the activity should be cancelled. **It's important to note that this is essential for player safety and child protection, and also for the protection of mentors from any misinterpretation, misleading reporting of actions, and from unfair or malicious accusations.
2. Make adequate provision for First Aid and do not allow players to perform while injured.
3. Set and monitor the boundaries between a "working" relationship and "friendship" with players. It's advisable that players are not involved in a mentor's personal life.
4. Never allow the use of cameras, videos, camera phones etc., in changing rooms. The inappropriate use of images of underage children must be reported.
5. If overnight stays are required for matches or trips, players and mentors must observe and sign a separate agreement in accordance with club regulations upon joining the Juvenile Section of DeelRovers. For juvenile members, parents must also sign a permission slip. No child should be allowed travel without such a form. This also includes travelling to away matches on a given day.
6. Avoid any inappropriate physical contact, or contact which may be misconstrued as such when assisting players to perform a technique or when called on to perform First Aid.
7. Texts, emails, memos and phone calls for players from U16 level and below, must always be communicated through parents/ guardians.
8. The relationship between players and mentors is based upon trust and confidence. Occasionally mentors may acquire information of a confidential nature about their players. This information must be kept confidential and except where abuse is suspected, must not be divulged to a third party.
9. Parents should be informed immediately when problems arise with young players except in situations where informing parents may put the player at risk. In such a situation the relevant club officers should be contacted immediately.

Coaching, competition and other activities:

1. Recognise the development needs of young players and ensure players are matched on an individual and team basis.
2. Insist that players under your care respect the rules of the game. Insist on fair play and ensure players are aware that cheating or bullying behaviour is not tolerated.
3. Set realistic (challenging but achievable goals) performance goals.
4. Be punctual, properly attired and lead by example.
5. Avoid the use of alcohol before training and matches, during events and on trips with young players.
6. Ensure that games, activities and playing equipment are customised to suit the needs of those involved in terms of age, ability, experience and maturity.
7. Ensure that players are properly attired and are members of the club.
8. Ensure that all dressing rooms, facilities and areas used by the team (home or away) are not abused or damaged in any way and always left in a neat and tidy fashion.

KEY PRINCIPLES AND REQUIREMENTS OF MENTORS:

1. Mentors, coaches, selectors and all those associated with DeelRovers must work within the rules and guidelines laid down in the club's "Code of Conduct and Best Practice"
2. Each mentor must familiarise themselves fully with this document and must verify that they have read and will abide by it at the beginning of each season, or on taking up mentoring duties during the season.
3. Mentors must ensure when joining the club each year, that all parents of young players are familiar with the full code of conduct, and that young players are familiar with the young players section of the code.
4. **Mentors, coaches and selectors must take and adhere to instruction from the Executive Committee in relation to coaching, best practice, and administration of club affairs, and must abide by the decisions of the Executive Committee/ Football Committee/ Juvenile Committee where appropriate, particularly in the event of any disagreement or dispute.**

Policy Statement – YOUNG PLAYERS

Young players deserve to be given enjoyable, safe sporting opportunities, free of abuse and intimidation of any form. These players have rights which must be respected, and rules that as members, they must accept.

Young players can ensure that our sport has a beneficial impact when they adhere to the following principles. Young players should;

1. Treat all mentors (coaches, managers, club officials, selectors etc.) with respect.
2. Play fairly and respect your opponents.
3. Respect fellow team members – even when things go wrong.
4. Be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.
5. Behave in a manner that avoids bringing the sport and our club into disrepute.
6. Never cheat, use violence, verbal abuse or engage in "name calling".
7. Never shout at or argue with officials.
8. Never bully or use bullying tactics to isolate another player.
9. Never use bullying tactics to gain unfair advantage.
10. Always accept apologies when offered.
11. Should not spread rumours, or tell lies about adults or fellow players.
12. Represent your family, club and county with pride and dignity.
13. Shake hands with your opponent before and after the game irrespective of the result.
14. Adhere to the proper standards of behaviour and the club's Code of Conduct, when travelling to away events.
15. Have fun, take part on an equal basis.
16. Have complaints treated in confidence and acted upon.
17. Talk to the Club's Childrens Officer and or parents/ guardians if they have any problems.
18. Let the coach/ mentors know when they are unavailable for training and playing matches.
19. Respect club property and personal belongings of others and in particular, equipment and facilities are not damaged in any way.
20. Abide by the rules of the GAA and club regulations.

Policy Statement – PARENTS/GUARDIANS

DeelRovers recognises that parents play a key role in relation to volunteer support for our club and its teams. We encourage parents to become active members of our club to ensure growth, development and continuity of our club.

Parents or Guardians should not meet their own needs for success and achievement through their child's participation. Parents must realise and accept the procedures set out in this document relating to Code of Conduct and Best Practice.

Parents or Guardians can ensure that our sport has a beneficial impact when they adhere to the following principles. Parents or Guardians should;

1. Ensure that they carefully read and understand this document.
2. Ensure in particular that their child also reads and understands what is expected of them in relation to this code.
3. Be a role model for your child and maintain the highest standards of conduct when interacting with children, other parents, officials and organisers.
4. Always behave responsibly and do not seek to unfairly affect the game or player.
5. Never intentionally expose young players to embarrassment or ridicule by the use of flippant or sarcastic remarks.
6. Always recognise the value and importance of volunteers.
7. Do not publicly question the judgement or honesty of officials, organisers and mentors.
8. Set a good example by applauding good play by both sides.
9. Show approval, and give praise to your own child and their team mates for effort, skill and improvement, and not just for results. Praise in defeat is particularly important.
10. Support all efforts to remove abusive behaviour and bullying.
11. Inform mentors/ officials if your child is unable to attend training/ matches.
12. Know the start and finish times of training and matches.
13. Reply, where necessary to communications received from club officials/ mentors
14. Arrange to collect your child after training and matches if you cannot be present.
15. Attend games and training on a regular basis. Children love to impress!!
16. Give advice to your child on the importance of maintaining a balanced diet and attitude.
17. Listen to what young people have to say.
18. Should not criticise playing performance of your child.
19. The academy encourages parents to attend all training sessions and games. However, for children under the age of seven, it is compulsory that parents are in attendance.
20. Where possible, assist in helping with equipment and organisation of activities associated with your child's participation in DeelRovers GAA Club.
21. Bring any concerns that you may have in relation to club activities to the attention of the child's mentor, or to the Child Protection Officer or the Juvenile Chairman.

Policy Statement – ADULT PLAYERS

DeelRovers GAA Club is fully committed to safeguarding the well-being of its members. We encourage “best practice” in the playing of our games and we are committed to providing an environment and ethos which will at all times, show respect and understanding for member’s rights, safety and welfare. We aim to assist our adult players in achieving their true potential by fair and ethical means. In accordance with this guiding philosophy, our sport must be drug free and played in a fair and sporting spirit.

Code of Conduct

Adult players should ensure that our sport has a beneficial impact when they adhere to the following principles;

1. All players are to be members of DeelRovers GAA Club.
2. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every player equally regardless of age, gender, ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, social background or ability.
3. Encourage the respect for opponents, officials, selectors, and other coaches. AVOID CRITICISM OF MENTORS AND OFFICIALS.
4. Never bully or use bullying tactics to isolate another player.
5. Never use unfair tactics or bullying to gain unfair advantage.
6. Respect fellow team members – on and off the pitch.
7. Respect opponents – be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.
8. Accept apologies from an opponent should the situation arise.
9. Behave in a manner that avoids bringing our club into disrepute.
10. Represent your family, club and county with pride and dignity.
11. Respect club property and the personal belongings of others and in particular that dressing rooms (home and away, equipment and facilities are left tidy and not damaged in any way.
12. Advise your coach/ manager/mentor in advance whether you are available or not available for training and competition.
13. Be generous with praise and never ridicule or shout at players for making a mistake – you make them too!!
14. Be punctual, properly attired and lead by example.
15. Never equate losing with failure.

16. Do not use foul and abusive language.
17. Do not use cameras, videos and camera phones in dressing rooms.
18. Display leadership and good example particularly when dealing with younger and underage members. Your behaviour will be what they'll aspire to.....
19. Bring any concerns in relation to club activities to the attention of your mentors, Liason Officer or Club Chairman

Policy Statement – MEMBERS & SUPPORTERS

Players of all ages and abilities are eager to enjoy and benefit from the support they receive from their parents, guardians, friends and fellow members of DeelRovers GAA Club who attend our games and functions as spectators, members and supporters. Active, loyal and well-behaved supporters are always welcome to attend and support our games and club functions but should be aware that their conduct will reflect on the team, players & DeelRovers GAA Club who they support and represent.

All Club Members and supporters have a responsibility to ensure that all spectators, supporters and members of the club conduct themselves in an acceptable and well behaved manner at all times, when attending our games, home or away, or club functions. Supporters and Club Members should realise and consider that all players and fellow members are encouraged to participate in Gaelic Games and club activities so that they may enjoy themselves.

Members & Supporters add to the enjoyment of our games and club activities by;

1. Ensuring that your membership of DeelRovers GAA Club is paid in full & is up to date.
2. Acting in a responsible & respectful fashion when using club facilities.
3. Being responsible for your guests who are invited by you to use club facilities.
4. Applauding good performance and effort of your club's players and of their opponents, regardless of the result.
5. Condemning the use of violence in any form, be it by fellow spectators, members, coaches, officials or players.
6. Encouraging the players to participate according to the rules and referees' decisions.
7. Demonstrating appropriate behaviour by not using foul or abusive language or harassing players, coaches, officials, fellow members or opponents from other clubs.
8. Respecting the decisions of all officials.
9. Respecting the authority of Exec. Committee and decisions that are made by them on behalf of the club and club members.
10. Upholding the principles of Fair Play and Respect for all.