



# Cumann Peile Magh nEalta

Magh nEalta, Ceannanas, Co. na Mí



## Code of Behaviour (Underage)

Moynalty GFC is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of its members and players. We believe that a youth centered approach should be adopted by everyone involved in the promotion and development of Gaelic Games at underage level. Young people should play for the fun of it and through participation should be helped to develop physically, psychologically and socially. Our Code of Conduct below sets out what we expect of coaches, players & parents. While most of it is common sense, it is a reminder to us all that sport is for enjoyment first and winning second.

Moynalty GFC have developed a condensed version of the GAA Code of Behavior (Underage) to cover the basic elements outlined in the GAA edition. If you would like to review the entire GAA Code of Behavior (underage) it is available [Here](#).

### For Players: Be safe and Feel safe

- Respect all coaches, team-mates, club and match officials and opponents.
- Do not use inappropriate language or racial reference.
- Be a good sport and always play fairly.
- Be gracious in defeat and modest in victory.
- Do not cheat, shout or argue with others, lie or take part in any unruly act.
- Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of team-mates or opponents.
- There is no place for fighting, over aggression or dangerous behavior in our Club.
- Co-operate with your coaches.
- Arrive on time. If you are going to be late or miss a match/training, inform a mentor.
- Take care of and respect Club property and equipment.
- Inform the coach/mentor/somebody if you feel unsafe, threatened, or afraid for any reason.

### For Coaches / Coaches: Role Models

- All Coaches / volunteers working with young people and children are required to be suitable for their chosen role(s), and should be appropriately trained, qualified and supported to fulfil such roles. All persons working or volunteering for such roles are required to:
  - Undertake agreed vetting as detailed by the Code of Best Practice in Youth Sport.
  - Attend relevant Gaelic Games Child Safeguarding training and ensure training is kept up to date.

- Possess a coaching qualification relevant to their role as recognised by their association.
- Be punctual, properly attired and organised for training/games.
- Encourage players to play within the rules of the game and promote sportsmanship.
- Inappropriate language should be avoided at all times.
- Respect the dignity, self-esteem and rights of all players and treat all players equally regardless of age, gender, ability, ethnic origin, cultural background, or religion.
- Be positive, praise & encourage players to ensure a positive experience for players.
- Treat all players as individuals and help them reach their full potential.
- Don't shout at or lecture players or reprimand/ridicule them when they make a mistake. Children learn best through trial and error. Children and young people should not be afraid to risk error so as to learn.
- Provide a safe environment for training and games.
- Promote the **RESPECT** campaign amongst your players, fellow coaches, parents and supporters.
- Make adequate provision for First Aid services.
- Ensure all players are involved in training and games regardless of skill level.
- Rotate the team captaincy and the method used for selecting teams so that the same children are not always selected to the exclusion of others.
- Afford meaningful playing time for all U13/U15 players to assist in the development of their playing skills, within their own age groups. The relevant team management shall be responsible and make all decisions in relation to timekeeping. However, the Club recommends that all players get a minimum of 30 minutes in all games.
- Players can play one age group up but their participation cannot deny playing time for other players who play at that age group and they will not be guaranteed meaningful playing time in any games.
- Ensure all activities are suitable for the ability, age and experience of the players.
- Coaches should ensure that adequate adult:child ratios are observed and never take sessions as the only adult present.
- Avoid smoking while working with young players. Do not consume alcohol or non-prescribed drugs while underage players are in your care.
- Encourage parents to become involved in our activities wherever possible.
- Clearly communicate matches/training times to players/parents and do not communicate individually by text/email with underage players.
- Should coaches or volunteers be aware of or have concerns regarding the possible abuse of a child you should report this to the Child Safety Officer or member of the Executive Committee or seek the assistance of your Designated Liaison Person (DLP) so that they may assist in forwarding the concern to the relevant statutory authority.

## For Parents or Guardians– Lead by example

- Try to attend training sessions and matches to support your children where possible.
- Focus on your child's efforts rather than performance or result.
- Encourage and support your child and their team but leave the coaching and game related issues to the coaches.
- Respect coaches/match official's decisions and encourage your child to do likewise. Refrain from using inappropriate language.
- Teach your child that an honest effort is as important as victory.

- Ensure that pick-up arrangements are clear and that pick-ups are punctual. Do not treat the Club as a child-minding service.
- Support coaches in their role as volunteers & assist in organising activities/events if required.
- Inform the coaches if for any reason your child cannot attend games/training.
- Parents are invited to become involved in mentoring and appropriate training is available to facilitate this.
- Parents should not attempt to meet their own needs for success and achievement through their child's participation in the games.
- Ensure that your child/children's medical history is documented during the registration process.
- Ensure your child/children and at least one parent/guardian are registered & fully paid-up members of the club.
- Ensure your child/children are aware of and understand the club Code of Conduct.

## Parents/Guardians have the right to

- Know their child is safe and to make a complaint if they believe that 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 or becomes unwell.
- Have, as a member, a say in relation to decisions being made within the Club.
- Complain to the following Club Officers if they have concerns about the standard of coaching.
  - [secretary.moynalty.meath@gaa.ie](mailto:secretary.moynalty.meath@gaa.ie) ,
  - [secretarybng.moynalty.meath@gaa.ie](mailto:secretarybng.moynalty.meath@gaa.ie)

Any suspected breaches of the Code must be reported to the following Officers;

- [secretary.moynalty.meath@gaa.ie](mailto:secretary.moynalty.meath@gaa.ie) ,
- [secretarybng.moynalty.meath@gaa.ie](mailto:secretarybng.moynalty.meath@gaa.ie)

For Child protection issues please contact the Club's Childrens Officer

- [Childrensofficer.moynalty.meath@gaa.ie](mailto:Childrensofficer.moynalty.meath@gaa.ie)

A copy of the Moynalty GFC Child Safeguarding Statement is available Here

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Sean Ó Caiside, Chathaoirleach

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Terry Nevin, Childrens Officer