

National Children's Officer Annual Report May 2022

Child Safeguarding Statement:

We updated Orienteering Ireland's (OI) Child Safeguarding Statement on our website on 6 Sept. '22. We used a longer more detailed version following the example of other organisations.

Risk Assessment Template:

The Risk Assessment Template for OI clubs was also updated to reflect changes in the *Code of Conduct and Good Practice* document.

Club Safeguarding Self-Assessment Audit (from Sport Ireland):

All 17 clubs were invited to do the Safeguarding Self-Assessment Audit in May 2021:

8th July 2021 - I replied to all clubs and offered advice and assistance to those who were having trouble completing the audit.

16 of the 17 clubs completed the Safeguarding Self-Assessment Audit.

In terms of next steps, Sport Ireland state that over the coming weeks an independent body (INEQE*) will compile a report for each governing body based on the submissions from clubs and send it directly to the National Children's Officer. This report will provide each governing body with an analysis of responses, identify trends and also make recommendations.

* INEQE: *An independent safeguarding organisation that delivers solutions to a wide spectrum of clients, including both public and private sectors across the UK, Ireland and beyond.*

Sport Ireland Safeguarding training:

In Sport Ireland's *Safeguarding Guidance for Children and Young People in Sport*, it states that: *Sport Ireland requires all NGB's to ensure all members working with children and young people complete the Sport Ireland Safeguarding workshops.*

We intend running more Safeguarding 1 workshops this year and hope that a lot more people will take part. At the moment we expect any adult travelling with the junior squad (JHI, EYOC etc.) to have completed the training and we hope that all adults attending training sessions with the juniors in the future will do Safeguarding 1 as soon as possible. Anyone 18 years old or older is an adult.

Note that Safeguarding training courses are more often run by Sports Partnerships, and it is not necessary to do one run by OI. Details of upcoming Safeguarding training courses can be found online. On completion, please forward the certificate number to OI.

I attended all the Governing Body Designated Safeguarding Children Officer meetings in the last year, all of which were held online.

Finally, I wish to thank the clubs' children's officers and committee members for all they have done and for the cooperation from the clubs themselves and I wish to thank those members of the committee who have assisted me in many ways over the last year.

Ciarán Donaghy (National Children's Officer).