



# Portrane Hockey Club

## Club Supervision Policy

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## Supervision Policy

Portrane Hockey Club (PHC) requires that all hockey activities involving children and young people must be supervised. An individual should avoid being alone with a child and it is the responsibility of Coaches/Volunteers/Parents to ensure adequate supervision is provided for any hockey activities in accordance with The Children's First Act (2015) and best practice requirements as described in these procedures. For any activity the welfare and safety of the child must remain of paramount importance at all times.

### General

Young people are left at PHC training facility by parents/guardians who expect this to be a safe environment. Supervision must also be provided in line with this policy for away events where further requirements may be required – see specific policy for Travelling and Away Trip Policy.

A safe environment can only be created when everybody in the Club works together to put safeguards in place for everyone's protection. Parents/guardians must also understand that they have an important role in implementing safe practices for their children and be willing to help.

### Supervision for activities

The following general details must be observed:

- All Coaches/Volunteers must make sure there is an adequate adult: child ratio. This will depend on the nature of the activity, the age of the participants and any special needs of the group; for example if children have never been away or have particular need requiring specific attention. Group sizes for training purposes will be determined by the qualification of the coach or teacher.
- As a guide general supervision for groups requires a ratio of adults to children of 1:8 for under 12 years of age and a ratio 1:10 for participants over 12 years of age. There must always be at least two adults present for all activities (England Hockey Safety Guidance FAQ May 2016).
- For mixed gender groups of children there should be leaders of both genders available.
- All Coaches/Volunteers must be garda vetted in line with the Children's First Act (2015) before supervision of children/young people.

All Coaches/Volunteers must avoid being alone with one young person, talking to a young person individually can be done in an open environment, in view of others. The Coach must keep attendance records and a record of any incidents / injuries that occur.

### Responsibility for Parents/Guardians

Parents/guardians should be clearly informed of the times for the start and end of training sessions or matches; the responsibility is with parents/guardians to ensure they are on time to either drop off or collect their children at the required time – this is included in the code of conduct. At least two leaders should remain until all participants have been collected.