



Policy Statements

1. Equity Policy Statement

- This club is committed to ensuring that equity is incorporated across all aspects of its development. In doing so it acknowledges and adopts the following Sport Northern Ireland definition of sports equity:

“Sports equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure it becomes equally accessible to everyone in society.”

- The club respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of their sport, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality or social/economic status.
- The club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse.
- All club members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.
- The club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously, according to club disciplinary procedures.

2. Child Protection Policy Statement

We at **Newry Basketball Club** are committed to good practice which protects children from harm. Staff and volunteers must accept and recognise their responsibility to provide an environment which promotes the safety of the child at all times. To achieve this BNI strongly advises all Clubs to;

- Develop an awareness of the issues which may lead to children being harmed.
- Create an open environment by identifying a ‘Designated person’ to whom the children can turn to if they need to talk.
- Adopt child centred and democratic coaching styles.
- Adopt child protection guidelines through codes of conduct for members and all adults working at the club. Adult workers include coaches, parents and volunteers.
- Ensure careful open and equitable recruitment, selection and management procedures. These procedures will provide regular support and supervision of staff/volunteers.
- Ensure complaints, grievance and disciplinary procedures are included in our constitution.
- Share information about concerns with children and parents and others who need to know.
- Provide information as required to the management committee.
- Ensure good and safe working/playing practices



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- Be involved in training made available through the various agencies and strengthen links with these agencies.
- Keep child protection policies under regular review (every 3 years minimum).
- Have procedures relating specifically to bullying, away trips, transport and use of photography
- Have an induction document available for parents, coaches and children clearly outlining their rights and responsibilities
- The **Children (Northern Ireland) Order (1995)** is based on a clear and consistent set of principles designed with the common aim of promoting the welfare of children.
- Children have the right to be safe. All coaches should ensure that this fundamental principle takes precedence over all other considerations.
- This policy applies to all those involved in **Basketball Northern Ireland**, coaches, administrators, officials, volunteer drivers, parents and young people.

3. Equality Statement

Newry Basketball Club is committed to a policy of equal treatment of all members and requires all members of whatever level of authority to abide and adhere to this general principle and the requirements of the Codes of Practice issued by the Equal Opportunities Commission and Commission for Racial Equality.

All children should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, sex, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion. Children, irrespective of ability or disability should be involved in sports activities in an integrated and inclusive way, whenever possible, thus allowing them to participate to their full potential alongside other children (Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport 2003)

Newry Basketball Club recognises the additional vulnerability of some children and the extra difficulties they may face when seeking help, i.e.

Dependency due to disability may make some children feel powerless on occasions possible limited ability to communicate their feelings A negative self image can make children vulnerable to manipulation by others

To address this vulnerability coaches will seek guidance on working with children with a disability from external agencies, parents / guardians and the children themselves.



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4. Confidentiality Statement

We at Newry Basketball Club will never promise to keep secrets. However, information of a confidential nature will only be communicated on a "need to know" basis, with the welfare of the child paramount.

Considerations of confidentiality will not be allowed to override the rights of children or young members to be protected from harm.

A full Safeguarding policy statement should be displayed and available within club premises for all interested parties to read.