



Cláirseacha na Sceirí
Cumann C.L.G. agus Camógaíochta Cláirseacha Na Sceirí
(Skerries Harps G.A.A. and Camogie Club)
Dublin Road, Skerries, Co. Dublin



Skerries Harps Juvenile Games Handbook for Mentor's & Parents



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Cláirseacha na Sceirí
Cumann C.L.G. agus Camógaitheacha Chláirseacha Na Sceirí
(Skerries Harps G.A.A. and Camogie Club)
Dublin Road, Skerries, Co. Dublin



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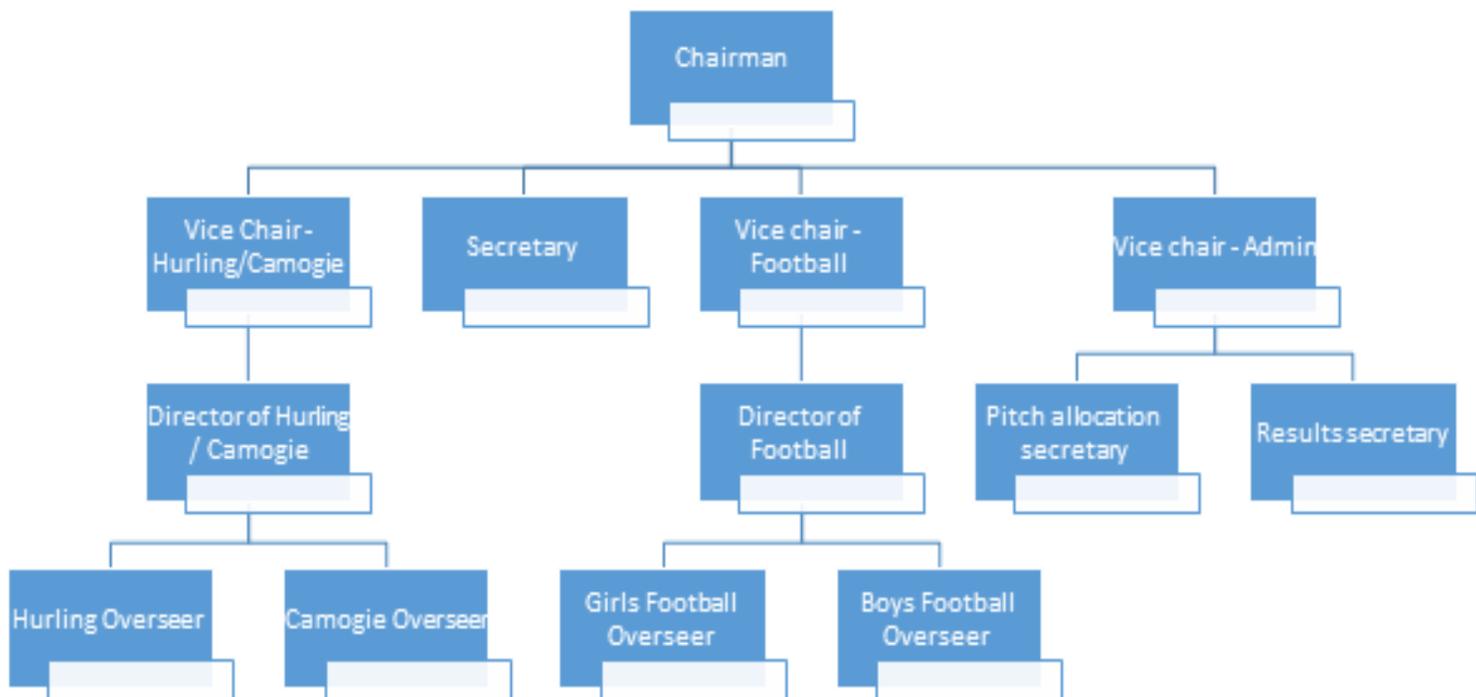
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Juvenile Structure—Section 1



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Introduction Section 2 Page 1

We would like to welcome any new juvenile mentors, parents or guardians to the Club. What follows is an attempt to draw together, for all our benefit, the various duties and roles of mentors, along with tips and guidelines on how best to perform those duties. New mentors are recruited each year at juvenile level. These mentors may not have been members of the club previously and accordingly may not be familiar with the operation and procedures of the club or with its aims and aspirations.

All mentors, old and new, are asked to familiarise themselves with the contents of this booklet which sets out the club policy in a range of areas.

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Each section, ladies football, camogie, boys' hurling and football can learn from each other to ensure that all our juvenile members have a positive and life-enriching experience when they walk in the gate of Skerries Harps.

Remember that it is up to us as mentors to set the highest standards of child protection, respect and coaching.

Training and coaching juvenile teams is a great privilege and can have huge influence on our young players. When we take on the role of mentor we are also taking on the responsibility to fulfil the guidelines below.

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Please follow the fixtures on the club website and encourage our young players to attend all home fixtures of our senior teams. In this way they will also learn the skills of the game.

The Skills Pathway Setout by the clubhouse is a great resource for young players to build on their skills in hurling, camogie and football.

Very best wishes for the year ahead and should you need any clarification on any aspect of this booklet please contact :

Gerard Rogan

Anthony Weldon

Martin Kenny

Paul Finnegan

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This Juvenile Booklet is designed to ensure the smooth running of Juvenile games in the club .Games. It is essential that all mentors are familiar with the contents of this booklet.

Club mentors should strive to work well with their own mentor colleagues and with mentors who are involved in all the club sections. Remember that the number one priority is the player. Mentors are reminded that the team you are in charge of is the club's team; how you perform and act will reflect on the club. Be aware, therefore, at all times of the club's policies and protocols and the aims and objectives of the GAA. Remember, consideration, co-operation and communication will solve many problems.

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A key aim is that all referees are treated with respect. No referee goes out to have a bad game. If we treat referees with respect, our players will follow. Where our juvenile players treat referees with disrespect, we must take appropriate action. Unfortunately many teams and mentors show disrespect to referees. The time has now come for a culture change in this regard and we must be the leaders in that change to break the mould.

The lead mentor of each team is responsible for ensuring that that the referee is treated with respect by other mentors, players or supporters at all times. Mentors should shake hands with referee and opposition mentors before and after the game. Being a mentor brings with it responsibility to promote the highest standards of respect for referees. Mentors must be members of Skerries Harps

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The **GAA Respect Initiative** aims to promote positive behaviour and to ensure that an enriching environment is provided for the promotion and development of Gaelic Games. This includes respect for and from all participants on and around the field. See <http://gaa.ie/youth-zone/gaa-respect-initiative/> for more details.

Concussion

Contrary to popular belief, most concussion injuries occur without a loss of consciousness and so it is important to recognise the other signs and symptoms of concussion. A symptom is something a player will feel whilst a sign is something a teammate or coach will notice. Please familiarise yourself with best practice on concussion by accessing this link <http://learning.gaa.ie/node/85165%20>

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Introduction Section 2 Page 7

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

Skerries Harps is a Club promoting four games. Team mentors, are expected to support and facilitate players who wish to participate in both applicable codes.

All mentors must be members of the club. See club website for membership application form. All parents are strongly encouraged to become members.

All mentors working with U18 players must receive Garda Clearance. Procedures are outlined under Garda Vetting Information Section on the Club website. If you need advice in this regard, please contact the Children's Officer of the section you are involved with.

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines

Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

One mentor from each group must ensure that **ALL** players are registered. Players who are not registered are **NOT INSURED** to train or to play. Mentors who are aware of children whose families are in financial difficulty should approach the chair of the relevant section to make suitable arrangements. In any event **Juvenile players must register by (Need to Confirm Date)**

This rule must be strictly enforced. **The Registrar of each of the Juvenile sections is a particularly onerous voluntary position and needs your full support on this matter.**

TBA , TBA , TBA are available to assist anyone having difficulties with registration.

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The allegiance of juvenile players should firstly be to their **own year group**. Children can only progress from the Academy with their own age group. Please note that where it becomes evident that a player is not in the correct age group, they will be moved to the correct age group by the Director of Coaching.

Responsibility for all facilities is the responsibility of all club members. Please ensure dressing rooms are swept and clean, and gates and facilities are locked after use. Please ensure that the young players are involved in maintaining our facilities.

20 pairs of hands spending 5 minutes picking up litter is very effective.

Parents should be encouraged to assist facilities.

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines

Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

Running a club like Skerries Harps costs a huge amount of money each year. Affiliation fee from Dublin County Board for Hurling and Gaelic Football amounted to almost €XXXX. For dual camogie / ladies football players, two separate sets of registration fees must be paid to respective county boards. XXXX% of **all** fundraising must be retained for general club purposes. Mentors should nominate one parent of their team to promote the Club Lotto through a €2 per week contribution

As new mentors are assigned to teams emerging from the Academy, support should be provided from the club section and next highest team to advise on procedures for running Juvenile teams.

Opportunities should be taken regularly to explain the **Voluntary Ethos** of the club to parents and players alike.

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines

Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

Where a team has had the same set of mentors for a number of years, the introduction of a ‘new’ coaching voice is desirable and possibilities will be explored in conjunction with the Director Of the Code.

Where there are a number of teams in a particular age group, players should be rotated between groups to get to know all other players in their age group along with receiving coaching from a wide range of mentors.

Mentors should strongly consider placing their own child in a group different to the one they are coaching.

At the start of every season, please recycle equipment that is no longer suitable or required down to next age group.

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

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The objective of the Juvenile section is to teach players the skills of Gaelic games and to facilitate the exercise of those skills in a competitive and fun way.

Our aim is to foster an atmosphere of respect, discipline, learning and fun at games and training sessions. Our highest priority is that players should be safe, and learn sporting values during their juvenile playing days which will remain with them for life.

Ballyboden St Endas GAA, Camogie & Ladies Football Club Code of Best Practice is derived from the GAA Code of Best Practice in Youth Sport. For the full detailed document, please see <http://www.gaa.ie/clubzone/child-welfare-and-protection/>

or contact your relevant Children's Officer.

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

GAA Tackling Bullying is a new training resource that the GAA developed in response to a growing awareness of the impact of bullying in society and particularly in sport. The programme consists of a two-hour training workshop suitable for Coaches, Parents, Players and other Club personnel and also includes a range of publicity materials for Clubs. The drafting and piloting phase of this programme has taken more than a year with 10 pilot workshops and a number of consultation meetings with underage players, parents and coaches.

The two-hour programme may be run in tandem and complimentary to any other educational and or community anti-bullying initiatives and is suitable for delivery at both adult and under age levels. The GAA will upskill and train 50 Child Welfare Tutors to equip them to deliver the workshops at Club level in 2015.

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

COACHES, MENTORS AND TRAINERS

Coaches, mentors and trainers should:

- provide a positive, healthy and safe environment in which players can develop.
- not find themselves on their own in dressing rooms, cars etc with an individual player.
- be careful to ensure that you a player is not touched inappropriately.
- always encourage enjoyment, fun and participation in our games and activities.
- always remember that they are role models for the players in their care.

Recognise that skills development and personal satisfaction should have priority over competition, while always promoting **Fair Play**.

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

COACHES, MENTORS AND TRAINERS

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recognise the development needs of **all** young players, regardless of their ability

- ensure that you have the appropriate level of coaching accreditation.
- never use foul language or provocative language/ gestures to a player, opponent or match official.
- only enter the field of play with the referee's permission and do not question a referee's decisions or integrity.
- ensure that all players are given game time at every match.
- always ensure that the referee is treated with respect

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

THE CLUB

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Skerries Harps adopts the **GAA Code of Best Practice in Youth Sport** as a basic level of agreement between the club and their players, their coaches, parents/guardians and supporters in accordance with the Associations guidelines.

Ensure all coaches are made aware of the **GAA Code of Best Practice in Youth Sport**, as well as club policies and guidelines and adhere to these, which include:
Respond swiftly and appropriately to protect the welfare of children who participate in our games and related activities. The club has appointed Children's Officers whose role shall include the monitoring of the child centred ethos of the club. The club will monitor and maintain the appropriate level of coaching qualifications among coaches, mentors and trainers.

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

CHILD WELFARE & PROTECTION

The Club Has Designated Person's, will be responsible for dealing with any concerns about the protection of children in the club. It is the Club Children's Officers' Responsibility to promote greater awareness of the **GAA Code of Best Practice in Youth Sport** within the club, assist and identify the need for Code of Ethics training among coaches and to report to the Executive Committee regularly. The Club Designated Person's shall be responsible for reporting allegations of abuse to the statutory authorities.

When a child or young person discloses information of actual or suspected abuse to you as a coach or member of the club, you should report the matter as soon as possible to the Club Designated Person, as identified below, with responsibility for reporting abuse.

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Dublin Road, Sherries, Co. Dublin



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When a child or young person discloses information of actual or suspected abuse to you as a coach or member of the club, you should report the matter as soon as possible to the Club Designated Person, as identified below, with responsibility for reporting abuse.

Robert Keogh

Joe Rock

Gary Whelan

Chris McConvey

Eileen Gilmore

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

MEMBERSHIP, REGISTRATION AND FEES

Membership of the club is formal recognition of involvement with the club, allows access to the various facilities and groups that operate within the club and is of vital importance for the ongoing funding for the club.

Membership is due at the start of the calendar year and early payment is encouraged. Juvenile membership must be paid by **XXXX** at the latest.

Family membership is encouraged, particularly when children begin playing in the Juvenile sections.

Having parents involved strengthens the family ties with the club and greatly assists in the smooth running and management of teams and activities.

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Section 2 : Club Policy and Guidelines Applicable to all Four Juvenile Codes

DUTIES AND ROLE OF MENTORS

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Separate County Boards run Juvenile Boys Hurling and Football, Camogie and Ladies football

Broadly speaking the duties of mentors are:

To plan, organise, and prepare their teams for the various competitions. This includes training and coaching the players in the skills of the games, hurling, camogie and football.

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On occasion adult players are available to assist with coaching.

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