

2.1 Child Protection and Welfare Policy

2.1.5 Confidentiality

Confidentiality is about managing information in a respectful, professional and purposeful manner. Confidentiality should be maintained in respect of all issues and people involved in concerns about the welfare of a child or bad practice within a club. It is important that the rights of both the child and the person about whom the complaint has been made are protected.

The following points should be borne in mind:

- A guarantee of confidentiality or undertakings regarding secrecy cannot be given, as the welfare of the child will supersede all other considerations;
- All information should be treated in a careful and sensitive manner and should only be discussed with those who need to know;
- Information should be conveyed to the parents /guardians of a child about whom there are concerns in a sensitive way;
- Giving information to others on a "need to know" basis for the protection of a child is not a breach of confidentiality.

Ref. Code of Ethics & Good Practice for Children's Sport (Irish Sports Council 2001, p44)

