



BEARNA NA FORBACHA AONTAITHE

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

ADDRESS: KNOCKANAVODDY, FURBO, CO. GALWAY, H91 TX48

DATE: MARCH 2022

CLUB HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

All clubs have a responsibility to create and maintain a safe environment within their property/grounds for their members, users and visitors alike. In order to do so the club should have systems and documentation in place to fulfil their responsibility. One way this can be done is by establishing a Club Health & Safety Policy and a Club Safety Statement which will identify who in the club is responsible for what actions and the arrangements necessary to do so that are sufficient and applicable to the club. For the purpose of this document the Club refers to the *club property/grounds and any adjacent facilities, buildings, and/or infrastructure that the Club avails of*. Arrangements must also be in place for when the members, players, coaching staff, etc. are travelling to an away venue for match fixtures, training etc.

Bearna na Forbacha Aontaithe (Barna United FC) is committed to promoting and supporting the development of the local community through Football and Culture and to use the resultant sense of place to create a constructive, inclusive and positive outcome for its catchment area.

We are strongly committed to encouraging our members to take part in all activities bearing in mind that the health, well-being and safety of each individual is always our paramount concern.

We recommend levels of training and participation dependent on age and ability, and expect our players to participate within these boundaries.

It is the policy of Bearna na Forbacha Aontaithe to promote standards of health & safety within the club which will lead to the avoidance or reduction in risks to health & safety, to continually improve our safety performance and to ensure that the best practicable methods of compliance with the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work Act 2005 and the associated legislation are achieved.

The Club Safety Statement (prepared in accordance with Section 20 of the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work Act 2005) outlines how the Club Health & Safety Policy will be implemented in relation to the management of health, safety & welfare.

Bearna na Forbacha Aontaithe is committed to managing and conducting our activities in such a way as to ensure the safety, health & welfare of our members and others who may be affected by the Club's activities insofar as is reasonably practicable.

This will be achieved by the following:

- The provision of a Club Safety Statement to ensure that the Club Health & Safety Policy is adequately implemented and that all statutory duties relating to the Club's activities are complied with. The Club Safety Statement will be updated as required and includes guidance on duties & responsibilities, health & safety policy implementation and operation, hazard and associated risk identification/risk control measures together with first aid information, accident/dangerous occurrence incident report forms, accident report witness statement form, drugs & alcohol policy, anti-bullying/harassment policy, safety guidelines for Club facilities and a Club safety inspection checklist.
- The provision of a Child Safeguarding Policy in accordance with statutory duties and The Football Association of Ireland guidelines. Bearn na Forbacha Aontaithe's Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (the Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017)), Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice), the FAI Rulebook and the FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy.
- The appointment of a Safety Coordinator (volunteer role) for the Club who has good communication, advisory and administration skills and who will establish and maintain a safe environment and develop a safety culture within the Club with the support of the Club Chairperson, Club Executive Committee and in consultation with the Club members.
- Ensuring that all Club members are aware of, have access to and understand the Club Health & Safety Policy and the Club Safety Statement and, also, their responsibility to comply with same.
- The provision of safe buildings, car parking areas, play/training areas including safe access and egress.
- To carry out regular inspection of the club facilities and all activities undertaken by the Club.
- The provision and of safe and adequately maintained plant and equipment.
- The provision of safe articles and substances/materials.
- The provision and implementation of safe systems for the Club's activities.
- The provision of adequate welfare facilities.

- The provision of appropriate information, instruction, training and supervision for all Club members and, also, for others affected by or involved in the Club's activities where it is deemed necessary by the Club Executive Committee. Ensure that all members are given the appropriate level of training and competition by regularly assessing individual ability based on a person's age, maturity and development.
- Determining and implementing appropriate preventative and protective measures having regard to the general principles of prevention.
- The provision of emergency plans and procedures where it is deemed necessary by the Club Executive Committee. Ensure that normal operating procedures and emergency operating procedures are in place and understood by all members.
- Implementing reporting and recording procedures for accidents and dangerous occurrence incidents that happen during any club activity or on the Club's property/grounds.
- Provide access to adequate first aid facilities, AED defibrillators and qualified first aiders at all times during Club activities.
- Ensure that the implementation of the Club Health & Safety Policy through the Club Safety Statement is reviewed regularly and monitored for effectiveness.
- Obtaining the services of a competent person to give advice on Club health, safety & welfare matters where deemed necessary by the Club Executive Committee.

The detailed health, safety & welfare arrangements for achieving the Club Health & safety Policy objectives are set out in the Club Safety Statement.

Bearna na Forbacha Aontaithe is also committed to managing and conducting club activities in such a way as to prevent (insofar as is reasonably practicable) any improper conduct or behavior (including bullying/harassment) which is likely to put the safety, health or welfare of club members at risk.

The Chairperson of Bearna na Forbacha Aontaithe has overall responsibility for health, safety and welfare within the club. Members share this responsibility in ensuring their own health, safety and welfare while participating in activities.

Club members are encouraged to come forward with suggestions for improvement to this document.

The Club Safety Statement will be reviewed in light of experience and future developments within the club.

Signed: 

Date: 25/5/2022

Aengus Byrne.

Chairman of Bearna na Forbacha Aontaithe.