



## **Newry Rugby Football Club**

### **HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT:**

Whilst Newry Rugby Football Club is strongly committed to encouraging our players, coaches, members and volunteers to participate in the playing and enjoyment of rugby union, the physical health, mental well-being and personal safety of each individual is always our Committee's paramount concern. We are committed to compliance with the Health & Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 and in doing, so will provide for all our members facilities that are as safe and healthy as is reasonably practical. We undertake to dispense our legal responsibilities in delivering systems that are safe when providing appropriate information, instruction, training (where necessary) and supervision both on the rugby playing field and in the clubhouse. We recommend levels of training dependent upon ability. We expect all, in particular our junior athletes to participate within these boundaries. This statement applies to all Newry Rugby Football Club players, members, volunteers, visitors, opponents and to any person who may from time to time visit our club at Telford Park.

To support our Health & Safety policy statement we are committed to the following duties:

Our **Chairman** shall ensure that:

1. Resources are made available so that this Safety Policy is delivered efficiently.
2. Committee members are fully aware of their safety and health responsibilities.
3. Members are accountable for their actions in relation to safety and health.
4. The Safety Statement is reviewed regularly and its operation monitored.

Our **Committee** shall ensure that:

- a) Safe systems and practices are incorporated into all activities in the club.
- b) Any potential unhealthy or dangerous practice is reported and discontinued.
- c) An appointed "Health & Safety Officer" records risk assessment of club premises and activities undertaken at the club.
- d) A compliant safety-conscious culture within the club is promoted by putting appropriate measures in place as identified by the risk assessments.
- e) Playing members when training are tasked appropriately according to their suitability.
- f) All members are aware of, understand and follow the club's health & safety policy.

- g) Adequate first aid facilities are provided at all times.
- h) Serious 'reportable' injuries or accidents sustained on the club premises are reported.
- i) Any willful breach of safety rules is reported and the club's disciplinary procedure is activated if necessary.
- j) Ensure that the implementation of the policy is reviewed regularly and monitored to enhance its future effectiveness.

Our **Coaches** will ensure that:

- All coaching activities in the various sections are carried out according to guidelines laid down by the Irish Rugby Football Union.
- Sufficient coaches are available to ensure safe supervision of rugby activity.
- Specialist equipment such as weights, scrummaging machines, tackle bags, etc. are used only if qualified supervisors are present.
- Weight training is not permitted in the under-age sections.
- Persons not paid-up as members are not allowed to use the club's facilities.
- Under-age members are not allowed to engage in 'horse play'.
- Medical kits are available for both training and matches.

The **Bar Convenor** will ensure that:

1. All functions in the clubhouse have the prior authorization of the Committee.
2. Where appropriate, accredited licensed door personnel are in place for functions, with the exception of after match activities.
3. That all non-members entering the clubhouse for functions sign the guest book prior to entering the premises.
4. There is a senior club member present to supervise the function.
5. The toilets and dance floor are inspected at regular intervals and that all spillages are immediately cleaned up.
6. Guests do not bring any items onto the premises which could endanger other guests.
7. Persons using disco or musical equipment comply with supervisor's instructions.

Our **players and members** will ensure that they:

- Take responsibility for their own actions and are aware of the provisions of this Safety Statement, ensuring they take reasonable care for the health & safety of others.

- Co-operate with the club on health & safety issues.
- Correctly use training equipment as well as first aid kits / fire extinguishers provided.
- Comply with any safety directives which may be issued from time to time.