

# Code of Conduct for Children & Young People

## *Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club*

RNIYC is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members. The club believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with **MARK WILKINSON (MANAGER / RYA PRINCIPAL)**.

Sports clubs for young people should offer a positive experience where they can learn new things in a safe and positive environment.

As a member of RNIYC, you are expected to abide by the following junior code of practice:

### **CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO:**

- Be loyal and give their friends a second chance.
- Be friendly and particularly welcoming to new members.
- Be supportive and committed to other team members, offer comfort when required.
- Not get involved in inappropriate peer pressure and push others into something they do not want to do.
- Keep within the defined boundary of the playing/coaching area.
- Behave and listen to all instructions from the coach. Play within the rules and respect the official and their decisions.
- Take care of equipment owned by the club.
- All members must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background or religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- Refrain from the use of bad language or racial/sectarian references. This includes bullying using technologies like social media or texting.
- Refrain from bullying or persistent use of rough and dangerous play.
- Members should keep to agreed timings for training and competitions or inform their coach or team manager if they are going to be late.
- Members must wear suitable kit –in particular safety equipment such as buoyancy aids– as directed by the coach.
- Members must pay any fees for training or events promptly.
- Junior members are not allowed to smoke on club premises or whilst representing the club at competitions.
- Junior members are not allowed to consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on the club premises or whilst representing the club.
- Show respect to other youth members/leaders and show team spirit.
- Keep themselves safe.
- Report inappropriate behaviour or risky situations for youth members.
- Play fairly and be trustworthy.
- Respect officials and accept decisions.

- Show appropriate loyalty and be gracious in defeat.
- Challenge or report the bullying of your peers.
- Respect opponents.
- Not cheat or be violent/aggressive.
- Not use violence.
- Make your club a **fun** place to be.

### CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Be safe and happy in their chosen activity.
- Be listened to.
- Be respected and treated fairly.
- Privacy.
- Enjoy your sport in a protective environment.
- Be referred to professional help if needed.
- Be protected from abuse by other member or outside sources.
- Participate on an equal basis, appropriate to their ability.
- Experience competition and the desire to win.
- Be believed.
- Ask for help.

Any misdemeanours and general misbehaviour will be addressed by the immediate coach and reported verbally to the designated person. Persistent misbehaviour will result in dismissal from the club/sport. Parents will be informed at all stages.

Dismissals can be appealed by the coach/volunteer with final decisions taken by the club committee or referred to the governing body depending on the disciplinary procedures within the sport.

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**Printed name Young person**

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**Signature of Young Person**

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**Printed name of Parent/Guardian**

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**Signature of Parent/Guardian**

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**Date**

Parental consent is defined by the children (NI) Order 1995 Article 6 (i)

- Natural mother always has parental responsibility.
- Natural father gains parental responsibility:
  - If married to the mother at the time of birth or subsequently marries her.
  - Through an agreement witnessed by solicitor or a Parental responsibility Order.
  - Post 15 April 2002 if they jointly register the baby's birth.