



Child Safeguarding Statement

Section 1 - Club information

<i>Name:</i>	Motor Enthusiasts' Club
<i>Location:</i>	Dublin
<i>No. of members:</i>	98
<i>No. of junior members:</i>	5

Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm

The Motor Enthusiasts Club is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our NGB Motorsport Ireland's Safeguarding Policies our volunteer "staff" working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within sport. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

- **Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in sport.
- **Needs of the child** - All children's sport experiences should be guided by what is best for children. This means that adults should have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical and personal needs of young people.
- **Integrity in relationships** - Adults interacting with children in sport are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play** - All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasised, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Competition** - Competition is an essential element of sport and should be encouraged in an age appropriate manner. A child centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place.
- **Equality** - All children should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.

Section 3 - Risk Assessment

The Motor Enthusiasts Club’s written Risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process required to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified identified

Procedure in place to manage risk

Club Practices

- Lack of coaching qualification. N/A - No coaching provided.
- Supervision issues. No junior present at events without guardian.
- Unauthorised photography & recording activities. MI Yearbook Appendix 123 Article 16.
- Behavioural Issues. Code of Conduct MI Yearbook Appendices 122 + 123.
- Lack of gender balance amongst coaches. N/A - No coaching provided.
- No guidance for travelling & away trips. MI Yearbook Appendix 123 Article 15.
- Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy. MI Yearbook Appendices 122, 123 + 126.

Complaints & Discipline

- Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy. MI Yearbook Appendices 122, 123 + 126
 - Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent. General Competition Rules Chapter 16.
 - Complaints not being dealt with. Contact Club Children’s Officer at ChildrensOfficer@mec.ie.
- MI Yearbook Appendices 122 + 123 & General Competition Rules Chapter 16.

Reporting Procedures

- Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures.
 - No DLP appointed.
 - Concerns of abuse or harm not reported.
 - Not clear who YP should talk to or report to.
- Contact Club Children’s Officer at ChildrensOfficer@mec.ie.
Appendix 123 Article 20

Use of Facilities

- Unauthorised access to designated children’s play & practice areas & to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.....
- Unauthorised exit from children’s areas.

- Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas.
- Missing or found child on site.
- Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc...

Club has no property or clubhouse
Guardians are responsible for and must accompany juniors at all times

Recruitment

- Recruitment of inappropriate people.
- Lack of clarity on roles.

- Unqualified or untrained people in role.

All officials are known to Club directors.
In MI Yearbook GCR Chapter 9.

Officials are trained.

Communications

- Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors.
- No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Behaviour to members of visitors.
- Unauthorised photography & recording of activities.
- Inappropriate use of social media & communications by under 18’s
- Inappropriate use of social media & communications with under 18’s.

Child Safeguarding Statement on Club website.

Child Safeguarding Statement on Club website.

MI Yearbook Appendix 123 Article 16.

MI Yearbook Appendices 122, 123 + 126.

MI Yearbook Appendices 122, 123 + 126.

General Risk of Harm

- Harm not being recognised.

- Harm caused by:
 - Child to Child.
 - Coach to Child. Volunteer to Child.
 - Member to Child.
 - Visitor to Child.
- General behavioural issues.

- Vetting of volunteers.
- Issues of Online Safety

MI Yearbook Appendix 123.

MI Yearbook Appendix 123.

MI Yearbook Appendices 122 + 123 Code of Conduct.

Officials Vetted for U18’s disciplines.

MI Yearbook Appendix 126.

Section 4 – Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice). In addition to our Risk Assessment document described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

The Motor Enthusiasts Club has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by volunteers against a child availing of our activities – In MI Yearbook Appendix 123 Article 20.
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm – Courses available from Local Sports Partnership.
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities – In MI Yearbook Appendix 123 Article 20.

The Mandated/Relevant Person for NGB is Ronnie Murphy (safety@motorsportireland.com)

Section 5 – Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our Club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

Please note the following:

- This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed on the Club website and a paper version posted at check-in location at events.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed on 20th October, 2022.

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact: ChildrensOfficer@mec.ie.