



Child Safeguarding Statement

Section 1 – NGB information

Squash Ireland provides various sporting activities and opportunities for young people through participation in clubs, regional/provincial events and through our national teams.

NGB Details:

- Name: Squash Ireland (Irish Squash Federation)
- Sport: Squash
- Location: Sport Ireland Campus, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15
- Size (Number of staff/members/clubs): 10/3474/66
- Activities: Promotion of the game of Squash

Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm

Squash Ireland is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our NGB Safeguarding Policies our staff, both volunteers and employed, 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

This Squash Ireland 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 documents require to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
Club and Coaching Practices — Lack of coaching qualification. — Supervision issues. — Unauthorised photography & recording activities. — Behavioural Issues. — Lack of gender balance amongst coaches — No guidance for travelling & away trips — Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy	- Safeguarding policy – 1. Safe recruitment procedures - Policy - Appendix 5.2 - Policy - Appendix 5.5 - Appendix 7 codes of conduct. Disciplinary procedures. - Appendix 5. - Appendix 5.1; 5.4 ; 5.7 - Appendix 5.4; 5.7
Complaints & Discipline — Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy. — Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent — Complaints not being dealt with seriously	- Safeguarding policy 4. Disciplinary, complaints and appeals - Appendix 3 reporting and protecting - Safeguarding policy 4.Disciplinary, complaints and appeals
Reporting Procedures — Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures	- Appendix 3 Reporting and Protecting

— No DLP appointed. — Concerns of abuse or harm not reported. — Not clear who YP should talk to or report to.	- Named on Website - Appendix 3 Reporting and Protecting - Named on Website
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...	- Appendix 5.2; 5.9 - Appendix 5.2; 5.9 - Appendix 5.5 - No laid down procedure - Appendix 5.9
Recruitment — Recruitment of inappropriate people. — Lack of clarity on roles. — Unqualified or untrained people in role.	- Safeguarding Policy 1 Safe Recruitment - Appendix 2 Roles and Responsibilities - Safeguarding Policy 1 Safe Recruitment
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.	- Child Safeguarding Statement; safeguarding training - On website

— Unauthorised photography & recording of activities. — Inappropriate use of social media & communications by under 18's	- Appendix 5.5 - Appendix 5.6
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. — Issues of Bullying. — Vetting of staff/volunteers. — Issues of Online Safety	- Safeguarding Policy 3 - Reporting and Protection; Safeguarding training - Safeguarding Policy 3 – Reporting and Protection - Safeguarding Training - Codes of conduct - Anti-Bullying policy on website. - Vetting policy on website - Appendix 5.6

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 26th October 2025.

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.

Squash Ireland has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities.
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

Please note that all procedures listed are available on request.

The Mandated/Relevant Person for NGB is Pat Neeson, Safeguarding Officer.

Section 5 – Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our NGB 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:

- That all staff have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency and members of the public on request. And is on our website.
- This statement will be displayed in a prominent place by the NGB. It is on the website.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in January 2027

Signed:

Date: 27/10/2025



(On behalf of the NGB)

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For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact Pat Neeson, safeguarding@squashireland.ie