



## **Policy For Away Trips / Overnight Stays**

### **Introduction**

Safety of the children on a trip away from the club is extremely important. In order for the club to promote safety and in line with the code of behaviour, written permission must be obtained from all parents/guardians for all away trips. A written permission form is available on our website [www.suncroftgfc.com](http://www.suncroftgfc.com) and is attached to this policy.

### **Away Trips:**

- Parental or guardian consent must be obtained in writing and must be obtained before any young player/member can participate in any organised trip.
- Young players and their parents/guardians should both sign a form agreeing to partake in away trips or overnight stays.
- Parents/guardians are requested to inform the club/team mentors of any medical condition or special needs that their child may have.
- Young players must be adequately supervised (approximately 1 Mentor to 8 players).
- There must be adult Mentors of each gender with mixed groups.
- Mentors travelling on an away trip need to be chosen carefully and their roles and responsibilities outlined clearly. All Mentors must be Garda Vetted by the GAA.
- Mentors are required to avoid smoking while working with young players and must not consume alcohol or non-prescribed drugs while young players are in their care.
- Young players are forbidden from consuming alcohol or non-prescribed drugs.
- A meeting with parents/guardians and participants should be held to communicate travel times, competition details, other activities, gear requirement, medical requirement, special dietary needs and other necessary details.

### **Overnight stays:**

- A specific ratio of Mentors to young people should be agreed in advance (approximately 1 Mentor to 8 players). This ratio can vary depending on the age category of the young players and the type of activity they participate in.
- Ensure that the standard of accommodation is suitable for groups.
- Young people should always be under reasonable supervision and should never leave the venue or go unsupervised without prior permission.
- Adults should never share a room with a young player. If exceptional or emergency circumstances so dictate, there should be more than one young person in the room with the adult and/or two adults.



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- Where young people are sharing a room it should be arranged that the same gender and age grouping are kept together.
- In the event of a child sustaining a significant injury or an accident the parents/guardians should be informed as soon as possible.

### **Transport:**

Transport is a central element of any trip. If teams avail of bus or coach transport and it is essential that all aspects of the transport arrangements are checked out and agreed in advance. Safety should always be considered a priority regardless of the cost. The following should be considered:

- All vehicles used for transport should be well maintained, roadworthy, have the proper safety equipment and should be properly taxed and insured.
- When travelling on buses, coaches or cars, passengers must remain seated at all times and belted if available.
- Alternative access to transport should be available in case of emergency.
- Vehicles should be equipped with a First Aid Kit and a fire extinguisher and Mentors of the group should be familiar with how to use them.
- When hiring a bus or coach, information should be sought regarding the company's safety standards, reputation and reliability.
- Make drop off and collection times clear to mentors, parents/guardians and to young people.
- Coaches/mentors should never be alone with any child. If you have to transport an individual player for any reason. Put them in the back seat and get parental consent.
- Coaches/mentors should remain in pairs at the drop off point until all young people are collected after trips away.

**OVERNIGHT TRAVELLING PERMISSION FORM FOR UNDERAGE PLAYERS**

Game/Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Venue: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Pick up time: \_\_\_\_\_ Pick up location: \_\_\_\_\_

Drop off time: \_\_\_\_\_ Drop off Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Overnight Accommodation: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Young Player**

I have read and accept the conditions and rules set down in the Code of Behaviour for Young Players and I agree to abide by the rules of my Club and Association.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian of Participant**

I have read and accept the conditions and rules set down in the Code of Behaviour.

Name of Child(ren): \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardians Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

I Confirm That I Will Make Any Known Allergies Or Medical Conditions Known To The Adults Organising And In Charge Of This Travel. Please Tick To Confirm:

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_