



Child Safety Statement

Courtlough Shooting Grounds is committed to safeguarding children by working under the guidance of our Safeguarding Policies. Our volunteers and employed staff working with our NGB; the Irish Clay Target Shooting Association (ICTSA), seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop.

Courtlough Shooting Grounds commits to the following principles:

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 our 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.

Courtlough Shooting Grounds' 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, required to alleviate these risks.

The list of risks identified, are contained in the following categories:

- Coaching & Club Activities
- Complaints & Discipline
- Reporting Procedures
- Facilities
- Recruitment
- Communications and Social Media
- General Risk of Harm

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 26th October 2022 and is available at www.courtlough.ie

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (**Children First: National Guidance and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice**). In

addition to Courtlough Shooting Grounds' written Risk Assessment document, described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children whilst they are availing of our activities.

Courtlough Shooting Grounds 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.

The Mandated Person for Courtlough Shooting Grounds is Austin Gilligan.

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Courtlough Shooting Grounds is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement, and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm whilst participating in our activities. 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 will be displayed at www.courtlough.ie.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 26/10/2024.

Austin Gilligan

_____ Date: 26/10/2022

Austin Gilligan
Club's Children's Officer (CCO)

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact austin@courtlough.ie