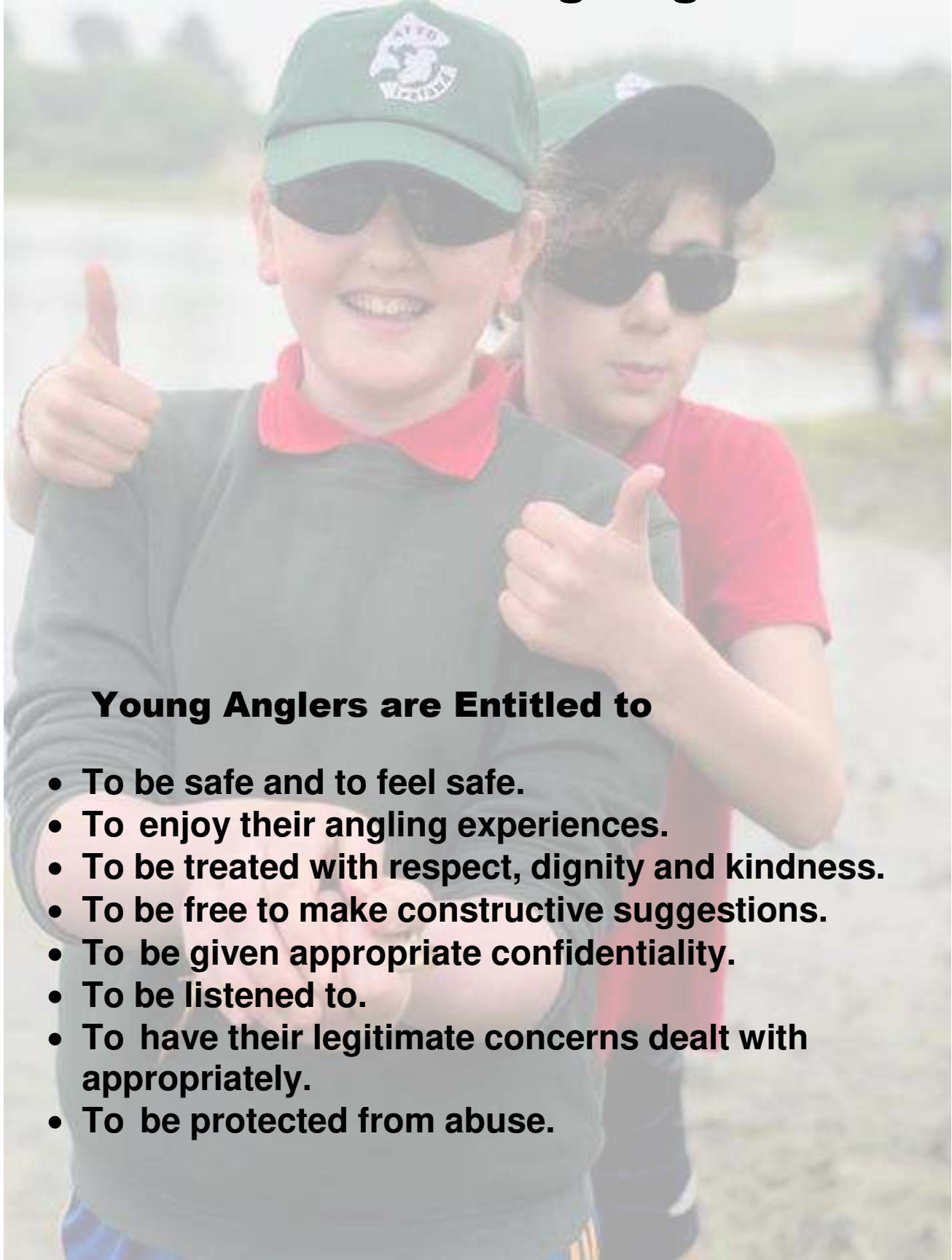


CODE OF CONDUCT



National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland NCFFI

Entitlements of Young Anglers



Young Anglers are Entitled to

- To be safe and to feel safe.
- To enjoy their angling experiences.
- To be treated with respect, dignity and kindness.
- To be free to make constructive suggestions.
- To be given appropriate confidentiality.
- To be listened to.
- To have their legitimate concerns dealt with appropriately.
- To be protected from abuse.

Responsibilities



Responsibilities of young anglers

- To respect their fellow anglers.
- Respect the fish they catch and know how to handle them safely.
- To participate in activities positively, making them enjoyable for everyone.
- To respect coaches and officials as well as other anglers.
- After a session, to be modest about angling success and gracious about the achievements of others.
- To know and observe the club rules and the rules of their angling code.
- To inform their coach when they will be unavailable for club events.
- To talk to the club Children's Officer about any concerns they have.
- To talk to an adult if they or others have been harmed.
- To take good care of club tackle and equipment.
- To leave gates and property as they were found
- To respect crops and animals
- To follow any signs, especially safety signs.
- Observe the seven principles of Leave No Trace

Young anglers should never

- Cheat.
- Wander off without permission.
- Shout at others or use violence.
- Seek to gain unfair advantage through bullying.
- Isolate others in the group by their behaviour.
- Spread rumours.
- Tell lies about others.
- Use foul or abusive language.
- Litter the shore, bank or country-side.



Child Centric



A Coach must maintain a child centric approach in all activities by

- Respecting the dignity and the rights of all members of the group.
- Ensuring all activities are carried out in a positive, supportive and fun atmosphere.
- Emphasising participation over success especially in competitive activities.
- Having appropriate training and coaching accreditation.
- Focusing on angler's improvement as a measure of coaching success, not competitive success nor increases in catch rates

The Coach as a Role Model



The DO'S of Good Coaching

- We all learn from mistakes. Coaching needs to be practiced in a safe atmosphere where the young can risk being wrong without fear.
- Remember young people are not young adults. Avoid horseplay and jokes open to misinterpretation.
- Encourage fair angling. In competitive angling accepting officials' decisions encourages young anglers to respect the competition rules.
- All physical contact should be appropriate and with the angler's permission.
- Challenge all bullying behaviour, from adults or from young anglers.
- The best working relationships are based on mutual trust and respect.

The DON'TS of coaching

- Never be alone with a young angler.
- Avoid tobacco, alcohol and non-prescription drugs while caring for young anglers.
- No foul or provocative language.
- Don't shout at or belittle young people in your care.
- You should never take young anglers to your home.
- You should never practice any form of therapy on young anglers.
- Never single out an angler for excessive attention to the exclusion of others.

Best Practice



- Keep attendance records.
- Be on time.
- Rotate roles and tasks so that everyone feels involved and equal.
- Be realistic in your expectations of young people's angling skills and improvements.
- Encourage parents/guardians to become involved.
- Keep records of incidents, injuries and actions taken. Confirm details with another adult.
- Contact parents as soon as possible when injuries occur.
- Group texts to supervising adults for arrangements are acceptable but avoid individual texts or phone contacts with under age anglers.
- Ensure anglers have appropriate weatherproof clothing for prevailing conditions.
- Have an adequate First Aid kit available. This should include sun block.
- Do a risk assessment of bank or shore at the beginning of a session.
- Share the Leave No Trace Principles
- Avoid litter strewn areas for sessions.



Parents/Guardians

Parents/Guardians should encourage their child to

- Fish within the club and venue rules.
- Respect rules of competition.
- Be positive about their participation in angling.
- Appreciate all club members, irrespective of angling talent, cultural background or religion or ethnicity.

Parents/Guardians should be good role models

- Respect officials' decisions and encourage their children to do the same.
- Show approval for effort, not for winning, or catching.
- Praise all young anglers not just their own.
- Do not seek to influence unfairly the outcome of a competition.
- Treat all children with respect. No embarrassing or sarcastic remarks.
- Never use a child's angling to belittle embarrass or humiliate them.
- Don't criticize competition results or an angler's catch. Instead focus on enjoyment and on how improvements can be made.
- Don't put excessive pressure on your child.



Parents/Guardians should

- Complete the club's registration/permission forms for their child.
- Inform club coaches of any change in their child's medical condition.
- Make sure their child is on time for club events.
- Take responsibility for their child's tackle, clothing and food requirements.
- Ask a young angler "did you enjoy yourself?" instead of "what did you catch?" or "did you win?"
- Listen to young anglers.
- Never attempt to live out their dreams through their children.

Parents/Guardians have the right to

- Know their child is safe and to express concerns on child safety related issues.
- Be contacted about issues relating to their child's wellbeing.
- Be contacted if their child is injured.
- Be consulted on matters affecting their child's membership of the club.
- Complain if they have concerns around coaching standards.



Parents/Guardians can support the club by

- **Attending club events regularly.**
- **Helping as requested to organise events**
- **Showing appreciation for club volunteers**
- **Promoting an inclusive atmosphere in the club, by treating all equally regardless of cultural background, gender, age, ability, religion or ethnic origin.**





Participation

Promoting participation by young people

- **Adopt this Code of Conduct as an introductory level agreement between all parties involved in promoting and developing juvenile structures in the club.**
- **Promote a friendly, inclusive and child centred atmosphere around young angler activities.**
- **Develop effective procedures to record of injuries, incidents and accidents.**
- **Access information around alcohol and substance abuse and promoting relevant training for coaches and CO's.**
- **Access information around anti bullying strategies and promote relevant Safeguarding and other relevant training for coaches and CO's.**

Clubs can encourage participation of Club members by

- **Ensuring that Sport Ireland/SportNI Code of Ethics/Safeguarding training is available to all coaches and club CO's.**
- **Having appropriate recruitment procedures for coaches and CO's.**
- **Having clearly defined roles for coaches and CO's and implementing quality communication structures.**

Encourage



Clubs can encourage participation of Young Anglers by

- Treating all young Anglers equally and with respect.
- Having age appropriate activities and equipment.
- Having appropriate levels of adult to young person ratios ideally 1:5 or better.
- Having personal development training available to young people including coaching training and roles in club organisation.
- Provide mixed gender supervision where required.
- When overnight stays are involved separate sleeping quarters for adults are essential in mixed groups separate male and female quarters will be necessary.

Clubs can encourage participation of Parents/Guardians by

- Encouraging them to join the club as anglers themselves.
- Encouraging them to become involved in all club activities.
- Having good communication structures with parents/guardians.
- Welcome them to attend and watch all sessions involving their child.
- Introduce them to the CO, who should be available to discuss any legitimate concerns.

Clubs



Developing best practice for Clubs.

- Juvenile sections should be well structured, allowing young people a say in the organisation.
- All club members should be aware of their responsibilities to all juveniles.
- A Children's Officer must be appointed by a selection process which ensures that a well-motivated and suitable person has responsibility for young members and has the necessary Safeguarding certification. The CO will have the responsibility to monitor the child centred ethos of the club.
- Promote the NCFFI Code of Conduct to all.
- Promote compliance with the club's policies and guidelines.
- Promote compliance with the Governing Bodies Policies and Guidelines.
- A Designated Liaison Person should be appointed in accordance with Safeguarding policies.
- Ensure that all those working with children have Garda Vetting/ACCESS NI in place.
- Adult groups often have a dynamic that is different to that of underage groups. Even when Safeguarding is in place the consent of Parents/Guardians must be sought.
- Clubs should make sure that the Governing Body insurance Schemes cover all juvenile activities.

Members

Members are responsible for promoting a child friendly atmosphere in the club by

- Being friendly and welcoming towards young members.
- Encouraging, listening and being ready to give advice to young anglers.
- Showing honesty and fair play at all times.
- Being respectful towards club officials, coaches and other members and decisions made.
- Being gracious in defeat and modest in victory.
- Supporting the Club CO's work.
- Volunteering some time for coaching duties.

Members should never

- Criticize or bad mouth decisions made by the club in front of young members.
- Use foul or abusive language.
- Have inappropriate conversations in the presence of young members.
- Use club activities to isolate or belittle a young person.
- Use alcohol, tobacco or non-prescription drugs while engaged in club activities, particularly when young people are present.

LEAVE NO TRACE



IRELAND
leave no trace

Principles

- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Be Considerate of Others
- Respect Farm Animals and Wildlife
- Travel and Camp on Durable Ground
- Leave What You Find
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Minimise the Effects of Fire

Practising a Leave No Trace ethic is very simple:
Make it hard for others to see or hear
you and LEAVE NO TRACE of your visit

NOTES: