



Code of Conduct for Children & Young People

Last updated	Mar 2021
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Row the Erne (RtE) is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members. The club believes that it is important that members, skippers, administrators and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with **ANY MEMBER OF THE CLUB COMMITTEE**. Contact details of committee members can be found at:

Email: safeguarding@rowtheerne.com

You also contact the RtE members directly:

Child Protection Officer: Clare McGovern
Chairperson: Heather Hicks

Sports clubs for young people should offer a positive experience where they can learn new things in a safe and positive environment.

As a member of **ROW THE ERNE** you are expected to abide by the following junior code of practice:

CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO:

- Be loyal and give their friends a second chance.
- Be friendly and particularly welcoming to new members.
- Be supportive and committed to other team members, offer comfort when required.
- Not get involved in inappropriate peer pressure and push others into something they do not want to do.
- Behave and listen to all instructions from the skipper. Row within the rules and respect the officials, skippers, club members and other rowers.

- Take care of equipment owned by the club.
- All members must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background or religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- Refrain from the use of bad language or racial/sectarian references. This includes bullying using new technologies like chat-rooms or texting.
- Refrain from bullying or persistent use of rough and dangerous paddling. This includes intentional ramming and tipping of boats.
- Members should keep to agreed timings for training and competitions or inform their skipper or river leader if they are going to be late.
- Members must wear suitable equipment:
 - BCU approved Buoyancy Aid or life jacket*
 - Appropriate Clothing (skipper will inspect clothing prior to session)
 - Appropriate foot wear

*Approved equipment is available from the club.

- Members must pay any fees for training or events promptly.
- Junior members are not allowed to smoke on club premises or whilst representing the club at competitions.
- Junior members are not allowed to consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on the club premises or whilst representing the club.
- Show respect to other youth members/leaders and show team spirit.
- Keep themselves safe.
- Report inappropriate behaviour or risky situations for youth members.
- Row fairly and be trustworthy.
- Respect officials and accept decisions.
- Show appropriate loyalty and be gracious in defeat.
- Challenge or report the bullying of your peers.
- Respect opponents.
- Not cheat or be violent/aggressive.
- Not use violence.
- Make your club a **fun** place to be.

CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Be safe and happy in their chosen activity.
- Be listened to.
- Be respected and treated fairly.
- Privacy.
- Enjoy your sport in a protective environment.
- Be referred to professional help if needed.
- Be protected from abuse by other member or outside sources.
- Participate on an equal basis, appropriate to their ability.
- Experience competition and the desire to win.
- Be believed.
- Ask for help.

Any misdemeanours and general misbehaviour will be addressed by the immediate skipper and reported verbally to the designated person. Persistent misbehaviour will result in dismissal from the club/sport. Parents will be informed at all stages.

Dismissals can be appealed by the skipper/volunteer with final decisions taken by the club committee or referred to the governing body depending on the disciplinary procedures within the sport.

Signature of Young Person

Printed name Young person

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Printed name of Parent/Guardian

Date

Parental consent is defined by the children (NI) Order 1995 Article 6 (i)

- Natural mother always has parental responsibility.
- Natural father gains parental responsibility:
 - If married to the mother at the time of birth or subsequently marries her.
 - Through an agreement witnessed by solicitor or a Parental responsibility Order.
 - Post 15 April 2002 if they jointly register the baby's birth.