

Naomh Olaf Juvenile Policy Document

Updated October 2015

Academy

- All players leaving the academy must be the correct age i.e. no player eligible to play U7 will be allowed to leave the academy and play U8.
- All children should be streamed into their correct age within the academy from day 1 to prevent issue arising when children leave to go to U8's
- The Boys and Girls Academy will work off an aligned calendar

Teams

- All teams must meet at the club for away matches.
- All teams up to and including the age of 12 shall wear their own Olaf's Jersey unless a set has been provided through some form of sponsorship
- All teams above the age of 12 shall be provided with numbered Club jerseys by the juvenile committee
- Where necessary hurling and football teams at one age will share the set of jerseys to minimise the cost to the club. Likewise for Ladies/Camogie.
- All training and games will be played in a positive atmosphere and players should be encouraged not criticised when mistakes are made.
- Bullying will not be tolerated under any circumstance and must be dealt with immediately. Bullying issues should be brought to the attention of the Lead Mentor who will in turn inform the Juvenile Chairperson. Should the issue remain unresolved please contact Children's Officer (details posted in players corridor)
- No mentors should place him/herself in a situation where they are left on their own with a child in the dressing room or in a car. This is for the protection of both the mentor and child.

Mentors

- All Mentors/coaches must be Garda vetted. Individuals are not eligible to work with children before successfully completing the Garda Vetting Bureau process.
- Be fully paid up club members
- All mentors are expected to follow/implement the Juvenile Coaching guidelines

Games

- All go game teams will follow the GAA guidelines especially:
 - All teams shall be streamed in accordance with guidelines of respective Boards.
 - All Goalposts must be staked to the ground before any game commences
- In the go game section all players should get at least half a game.
 - It is recommended that mentors allocated one mentor to the role of substitute management to assist in making this happen.
- From U13 upwards the emphasis is on performing to the best of the team's ability but mentors should strive to give every player game time unless that not possible due to competition rules.
- Teams should contact the opposition and, when at home, the referee by Thursday evening to confirm that the game will go ahead. In the event of pitch call offs both opposition and referee must be contacted. If opposition's ground is payable you are obliged to travel.

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- All Challenge game must be notified, through juvenile chairman/secretary, to the County Board 3 days in advance of game if within the County, otherwise 7 days notification is required.
- Mentor should check the council website on a Friday at 1pm to see if the council pitch is playable.

Development Squads

- Names of suitable players are to be forwarded to the juvenile chairman, G.P.O and coaching development officer for approval before being sent for trials. Talented committed players with excellent discipline are ideal and should be given preference. Players who are not training and playing regularly in their own age group in the club will not be considered for selection.

Discipline

- In the event of a red card being issued to a player or mentor, the mentors should email the juvenile chairman informing him of the issuing of the card and the circumstances and person involved.
- Any player shown a straight red card automatically receives a month's suspension plus 1 match ban in the code he/she was sent off in.
- Any player given a straight red card will be required to appear before the clubs disciplinary committee. All players have the right to appeal.

Equipment

- Mentors should ensure they have adequate equipment for their team
 - One Football for every two players
 - One Sliothar for every two players
 - A minimum of 4 replacement hurley's
 - When a player breaks a Hurley in training or a match the mentor should offer the child a replacement Hurley at a reduced price as outlined below.
 - Up to 31" Hurley's -- €10
 - 32" hurley's and above -- €14
- From U12 upwards mentors should ensure that they have an appropriate sized goal keepers hurl which they should retain for team use.
- Each year during the off season an inventory of equipment will be done by the juvenile committee and a hand over of equipment shall take place and teams will be restocked with new equipment as necessary

Players playing above their age level

- The policy of players starting out and playing their correct age does not prevent any player playing up to support an older team if and when requested. Where this is necessary players are only be permitted to play one year above their existing team and only with the prior knowledge of their mentors and approval of the player's parents.

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- All request for players to play up should be channelled through the mentors of the team and should not be made directly to players or parents without the mentor's knowledge and approval.
- Mentors must play players from their team before using underage players
- When a player is asked to play up, this should not happen at the expense of a player already part of the particular team he or she is asked to help.
- It is club policy that players' first responsibility is to play for the teams of their own age group, so any player asked to play up, to support the team above, must remain fully committed to his/her current team.
- The club retains the right to merge teams and enter teams above their age group when necessary or when it's deemed to be in the best interest of the club. Where two panels merge to form one or two teams, e.g. U15 and U16 groups come together to play at U16 for a season, (there is no longer an U15 team) then all players will be deemed to be of the same age group and the team will be picked by the mentors based on the player's attitude, ability and commitment.
- Any exceptions to the above must be approved by the Juvenile committee.

Players Injury

- Should a child receive an injury during a game, Mentors must ensure that the incident is recorded by the Match referee.
- A players suspected of suffering concussion must not be allowed back on the pitch
- Advise the parent and juvenile Chairman/Secretary of the injury.
- Injury Claim form are available on the club website.
- Form must be signed by Club Secretary and forwarded to County Secretary for submission to Insurance Company.
- Receipts must be included with Claim form (invoices will not suffice)
- The ladies football do not have the same player injury scheme that is in place with Willis for Hurling/Football & Camogie. It has some important differences such as where and when you can receive treatment to be covered under their scheme, full details can be found here: <http://ladiesgaelic.ie/club/injury-fund/>

Playing Facilities

- Each team will be allocated a training areas based on their particular training nights
- Indoor facilities will only be made available for teams under the age of 10.
- Use of the clubs official Stepside All-weather time slots will be allocated on a first come basis and space will be shared across multiple teams.
- Teams will collect a fee (equivalent to €2 a head per night) from players for the use of the facility outside of the times booked as of the 1st Jan 2013.
- Use of the new Hurling wall facility will be allocated on a rota system where there are multiple teams seeking to use it at the one time and all teams must book a slot in advance to avoid conflicts.
- Respect Club property

Conflicts

- It is the policy of Club that Championship takes precedent over league and league takes precedent over challenge games. This applies to both players and pitches.