**SAFEGUARDING**

In this section there is a variety of information into the protection and safeguarding of youths in our sports. If the information you require is not here do not hesitate to contact our National Children’s Officer:

**Email:** info@polocrosse.ie

Irish Polocrosse Association (IPA) is committed to creating and maintaining the safest environment possible for all young people and vulnerable adults who wish to participate in IPA activities.

We are fully committed to safeguarding the well being of all athletes. Every person should at all times, show respect and understanding for participants’ rights, safety, welfare and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the organisation and the guidelines contained in our ***Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Youths and Vulnerable Persons in Our Sport****.*

In 2015, IPA officially adopted Horse Sport Ireland Code,  [Horse Sport Ireland Code of Ethics & Good Practice for Youths & Vulnerable Adults In Our Sport](http://www.horsesportireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Horse-Sport-Ireland-Code-of-Ethics.pdf). Our Code is written in accordance with guidelines outlined in the ISC and SNI jointly  [Code of Ethics manual](http://www.irishsportscouncil.ie/Participation/Code_of_Ethics/Code_of_Ethics_Manual/).

**Code of Ethics Supporting Documentation**

* [Code of Ethics](http://www.horsesportireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Horse-Sport-Ireland-Code-of-Ethics.pdf) – Download the full document (PDF)
* [Codes of Conduct](http://www.horsesportireland.ie/governance/hsi-code-of-conduct/) – Codes of Conduct for Athlete’s Parents and Coaches
* [Anti Bullying Tips](http://www.horsesportireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Anti-Bullying-Tips.pdf) – Guidelines for Young People to stay safe on-line
* [Briefing on Self Harm In Sport](http://www.horsesportireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Briefing-On-Self-Harm-In-Sport-September-2012.pdf) – Facts, Myths and dealing with self harm

**Irish Polocrosse would advise each Affiliate to adopt the Horse Sport Ireland Code of Ethics and the policies and procedures outlined within it as its own Code of Ethics.**

**Child Welfare & Protection/Safeguarding Links**

* [**Garda Vetting**](http://www.horsesportireland.ie/governance/garda-vetting/)- Horse Sport Ireland Garda Vetting Procedures and Forms (ROI)
* [**AccessNI**](http://www.horsesportireland.ie/governance/accessni/)- Horse Sport Ireland Access NI Vetting Procedures and Forms (NI)
* [**Child Welfare & Protection Courses**](http://www.horsesportireland.ie/governance/child-protection-courses/)- Details of Horse Sport Ireland Basic Awareness and Children’s Officer Courses

**Additional information and Documentation**

* [Child Protection and Welfare Practice Handbook](http://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/CF_WelfarePracticehandbook.pdf) – Reference document for Child Protection
* [Tusla](http://www.tusla.ie/)- Child and Family Agency website (ROI)
* [NSPCC](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/) – National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children website (NI)
* [Children’s First](http://www.dcya.gov.ie/documents/Publications/ChildrenFirst.pdf) – National guideance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (ROI)
* [Our Duty To Care](http://www.dcya.gov.ie/documents/publications/odtc_full_eng.pdf)- National guideance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (NI)

