**The Point Pony Trekking Centre**

**Child Safeguarding Statement**

**Section 1 – Your Riding centre information**

***Pony & Horse trekking centre situated on the Wild Atlantic Way***

Organisation details:

* Name: The Point Pony Trekking Centre
* Sport: **Equestrian Sport**
* Location (National/Local level): ***Ballyconneely, H71T274 Co. Galway***
* Activities: ***trekking, hacking, basic instruction.***

**Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm**

***(The Point Pony Trekking Centre)*** is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our Safeguarding Policies our staff, both volunteers and employed, working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within sport. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

* **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 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.

**Section 3 - Risk Assessment**

This ***(The Point Pony Trekking Centre)***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 require to alleviate these risks.The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Risk Identified**  **(MUST BE MADE SPECIFIC TO YOUR BUSINESS – DELETE OR ADD AS NECESSARY)** | **Procedure in place to manage risk identified**  **(MUST BE MADE SPECIFIC TO YOUR BUSINESS – DELETE OR ADD AS NECESSARY)** |
| **Affiliate and Coaching Practices**   * Supervision issues. * Unauthorised photography & recording activities. * Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy | * Supervision policy/Coach education guidelines * Photography & Use of Images guidelines (see our GDPR policies) * Safeguarding Training Policy / Complaints & Disciplinary policy |
| **Complaints & Discipline**   * Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy. * Complaints not being dealt with seriously | * Complaints & Disciplinary procedure / Communications procedure. * Complaints & Disciplinary procedure. |
| **Reporting Procedures**   * Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures | * Reporting procedures / Coach Education policy / Codes of Conduct. |
| **Use of Facilities**   * Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas. * Missing or found child on site. | * Photography & Use of Images guidelines * Missing or found child policy./Safeguarding Training Policy |
| **Recruitment**   * Recruitment of inappropriate people. * Unqualified or untrained people in role. | * Recruitment policy. * Recruitment policy / Safeguarding Training Policy |
| **Communications**   * Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors. * No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Behaviour to members or visitors. * Unauthorised photography & recording of activities. * Inappropriate use of social media & communications by under 18’s | * Child Safeguarding Statement / Training Policy. * Child Safeguarding Statement (display) / Codes of Behaviour (distribute). * Photography & Use of Images policy * Communications policy / Codes of conduct |
| **General Risk of Harm**   * Harm not being recognised. * Harm caused by:   + Child to Child.   + Coach to Child.   + Volunteer to Child.   + Visitor to Child. * General behavioural issues. * Vetting of staff/volunteers. * Issues of Online Safety | * Safeguarding Training Policy * Safeguarding Training Policy / Recruitment policy / Codes of Conduct * Codes of Conduct. * Recruitment policy / Vetting Policy. * Social Media / Online Safety policy. |

**The Risk Assessment was undertaken on (*30/04/2024).***

**Section 4 – Procedures** Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla’s Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure & Practice and the Children (NI) Order 1995). In addition to our Risk Assessment document described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

***(The Point Pony Trekking Centre)*** 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.
* Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
* Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

***Please note that all procedures listed are available on request.***

***(If you say above that you have a certain policy please ensure that you do have it on site)***

The Mandated/Relevant Person for The Point Pony Trekking Centre is Your DLP (Anne Steyaert).

**Section 5 – Implementation**

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. The Point Pony Trekking Centre is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

Please note the following:

* That 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.
* This statement will be displayed in a prominent place by ***(***The Point Pony Trekking Centre***)****.*

The ***(*Point Pony Trekking Centre*)*** Child Safeguarding Plan including all policies and procedures is available on request or at the following webpage for download: ***(www.thepointponytrekkingcentre.com)***

You can also email  ***(info@thepointponytrekkingcentre.com)*** if you would like any information sent to you.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on ***(30/04/2025)***

Signed: Sean King/Anne Steyaert Date: ***(30/04/2024)***

(On behalf of ***(The Point Pony Trekking Centre)***

Name: ***(Anne Steyaert)*** Phone no: ***(0871619929)***

*For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact* ***(Anne Steyaert)****.*