



Role of Designated Liaison Person

Designated Liaison Person (DLP): The person who is responsible for reporting allegations or suspicions of child abuse and welfare issues to the Statutory Authorities.

This person will be a resource to anyone who has a child protection or welfare concern. They will work with the Children's Officer appointed to act as a resource for children and to represent them at committee level.

The DLP is a resource for volunteers/coaches/parents and should ensure that reporting procedures are followed. The DLP reports any suspected cases of child neglect or abuse to a Duty Social Worker in the Child and Family Agency/Tusla or an Garda Síochána. They should also inform the National Children's Officer that a report has been submitted to the Statutory Authorities.

The DLP should be knowledgeable about child protection and undertake any training considered necessary i.e. Sport Ireland Safeguarding 1 and 3 courses and they should familiarise themselves with the statutory and support services within their locality.

The DLP should have knowledge of the Safeguarding Guidance and relevant child protection legislation (Children First Act 2015, National Vetting Bureau Act 2012-2016).

In consultation with the person who raised the concern and the Children's Officer, the DLP will decide if reasonable grounds for a concern exist. The DLP will report their concerns to a Tusla duty social worker or an Gardai Síochána. If the DLP in consultation with the Children's Officer decides not to report a concern to Tusla, the following steps should be taken:

- The reasons for not reporting should be recorded.
- Any actions taken as a result of the concern should be recorded.
- The employee or coach/volunteer who raised the concern should be given a clear written explanation of the reasons why the concern is not being reported to Tusla.
- The employee or coach/volunteer should be advised that if they remain concerned about the situation, they are free to make a report to Tusla or An Garda Síochána.
- The individual employee or coach/volunteer has protections under the Protection for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998, should they report independently.

The DLP will ensure a procedure for recording concerns which, following consideration, do not initially meet reasonable grounds for concern. This procedure should identify where such concerns are recorded, who has access to these records and who is responsible for reviewing these records in line with GDPR. It should be noted that concerns that do not initially meet reasonable grounds for concern may, upon review, show patterns or clusters which may heighten the level of concern.



Irish Amateur Wrestling Association

Website - www.irishwrestling.ie

For further information on safeguarding and reporting of child protection and welfare concerns please reference the Sport Ireland Safeguarding Guidance for Children and Young People in Sport at

https://www.sportireland.ie/Participation/Code_of_Ethics/Safeguarding%20Guidance/Safeguarding%20Guidance%20for%20Children%20and%20Young%20People%20in%20Sport.pdf