

## Mission Statement

The primary role of the club is the promotion and development of Gaelic games as a principal component of Irish identity. In promoting our indigenous games, the club will continue to build on, and develop, an ethos of local identity and a sense of place. This will be achieved by encouraging participation from all sectors of the community, whilst promoting sportsmanship, discipline and personal development among club members. Ardahan GAA will continue to value, and to prosper from, the enormous voluntary efforts of its members, players and mentors. The club being membership based will be responsive to changes in society and to the wishes of its members, who ultimately 'own' the club.

The objective of this Code, approved by the general body at the Club's A.G.M. 30th November 2012, is to cover all aspects of Ardahan Juvenile G.A.A Section: Management, Coaches, Selectors, Mentors, Supporters and players from Under-6 right up to our minor teams.

By working together in partnerships with clear guidelines and direction we can develop a strong foundation and structure in our juvenile section which will enable our club to sow the seeds for future success at all levels, juvenile and adult. One of the main driving forces behind this plan is to ensure that we get the maximum number of children playing hurling and more importantly retain their services from Under-6 right up to adult level.

Players are the most important people in sport. Enjoying playing is the most important aspect of sport. Playing to win is fundamental to this but it should not however be a case of winning at all costs. The principles of sportsmanship, fair play and mutual respect among players, coaches, officials, supporters and spectators are primary considerations, which also bring responsibility with them. Your Club wishes to promote best practice in every aspect of the Club and has developed this Code particularly to provide all coaches, management, players and supporters with an understanding that there are consequences for their actions. It seeks to ensure that there is no misunderstanding as to what is expected of everyone when representing your Club in any way.

November 2012

*Cumann Naomh Mhuire*



*C.L.G. Ard Raitbin*

# ARDRAHAN GAA CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT

## General Code

### Respect, courtesy and honesty are required of every member of the club

1. It is mandatory for all management, coaches and players to pay a Membership / Registration fee to the club. This includes your insurance and affiliation costs for the season. Failure to do so will result in you not being a club member and therefore not being eligible to play or train for your club, manage, coach or select for your club, attend or represent your club at GAA functions or meetings. Parents and supporters are encouraged to become club members.
2. All trainers, coaches and selectors should immediately remove all juvenile players' individual mobile phone numbers from your own mobile. Contact should only be made through the player's parents/guardians as part of group texts.
3. Players, coaches, parents and supporters accept the decisions of all match officials without protest. They will not always be right but neither will you.
4. Players, coaches and supporters maintain emotional and physical control, do not use foul or abusive language or insulting remarks and do not physically or verbally abuse any official, player, spectator or coach from your own or oppositions' club. Control your temper and do not retaliate.
5. Players, Coaches and supporters if you have a grievance please inform the Secretary of your Club verbally or in writing and your grievance will be dealt with at a Club meeting.
6. Players and Coaches please attend all training sessions and matches punctually at the times advised by your coaches. If unable to attend for any reason advise your coach or one of your team selection committee.

7. Coaches, Parents, supporters. PLEASE NOTE, An Garda Siochana have advised the club to remind all drivers that occupants in your car must wear a seat belt at all times and that sitting on windows or leaning out of windows is strictly prohibited and may lead to prosecution.
8. Respect the facilities and equipment of your own and opposing clubs.
9. Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.

### Playing Code:

1. Ardahan Players must play fairly, do their best, enjoy themselves and adhere to the playing rules of Hurling and Football at all Times.
2. All players are requested to be Punctual for both training and games and to be properly attired with the correct playing gear. Helmets are compulsory and gum shields are encouraged at all times.
3. All forms of Photographic equipment i.e. cameras and picture mobile phones are not permitted in the dressing rooms. The chewing of gum and eating of food whilst training or playing a game are forbidden
4. Jewellery must not be worn while training or playing
5. Respect must be shown for your opponents and team-mates. Decisions by officials and referee's must be accepted gracefully.
6. Ardahan players should represent their family and Club with pride, dignity and commitment.
7. Irrespective of the result before and after the game you should shake hands with your opponents, support fellow team members, thank the referee and your coaches.
8. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.

## Code of Conduct – Mentors

1. Avoid physical or verbal abuse.
2. Avoid spending excessive amounts of time with children away from others
3. Avoid taking children to your home or taking children on journeys alone in your car
4. Coach by example and encourage sportsmanship and fair play on the field of play among juvenile players.
5. Ensure that sufficient time and attention is given to less talented players.
6. Try to ensure that training is an enjoyable experience for the players.
7. Do not put too much emphasis on results.
8. Avoid verbal exchanges with referees or opposing mentors / players.
9. Avoid taking sessions alone.
10. Do not rebuke a child for making a mistake, always encourage.

## Code of Conduct – Parents

1. Always encourage and support your child in their sport.
2. Be familiar with those mentors who are coaching your child.
3. Behave responsibly on the sideline.
4. Bring children to and from training on time.
5. Encourage your child to play by the rules.
6. Ensure your child has the proper training/playing gear and water.
7. Support the coaches and help out wherever necessary.
8. Ensure that your child is registered and paid-up.
9. Respect the coaches' decisions and encourage your children to do the same.
10. Show your support for your child/team by attending matches on a regular basis and assisting in the organization of club activities.

## Disciplinary Procedures

1. The Coach is responsible for discipline within his/her group and by speaking directly to the player can deal with minor breaches of the Code of Good Behaviour.
2. Should there be continuous breaches of the Code the coach will advise the parents / guardian.
3. In the case of a serious breach of indiscipline or continuous misbehaviour the Coach should report the matter to an Officer of Ardahan GAA Club who shall refer the matter to the Executive.
4. Should no meaningful solution occur, the Executive may impose a suspension from the club, withdraw membership or in extreme cases choose expulsion. The Executive reserve the right to suspend or expel any individual for a serious breach of the Code of Conduct.
5. This Code has been compiled for the greater good of Ardahan Juvenile GAA Club and while you may not totally agree with some aspects we hope you will understand that the clarity it brings will benefit us all in the long run. The Code will be reviewed on an annual basis.