

LOUGHREA RFC

SUPERVISION & SAFETY POLICY



LOUGHREA RFC understands the importance of ensuring that Age Grade players are supervised by qualified volunteers at all times no matter the occasion/event. The required ratios of qualified volunteers to players is often difficult to prescribe as they vary according to activity, location and resources. Even so the club recognises the fact that it is important to ensure that there are sufficient numbers of qualified volunteers to be able to cope with the number of children participating in any activity and adequately respond to an emergency.

As a guide, the IRFU recommends a **ratio of 1:10** as a minimum requirement where age grade players are 11 years of age or older and a **ratio of 1:8** for children under that age. For younger age grade players or situations involving travel, the ratio should increase depending on the requirements or the activity the group will be involved in.

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CONSIDERATIONS:

- Age, gender and ability/disability of the group
- Where girls are involved aim for a mix of male and female adults
- Type of activity (training, traveling or social) to be undertaken
- Time involved
- Experience of the qualified volunteers (coaches, managers and helpers/assistants) involved
- Previous experience with group or club and likely behaviour
- Location of activity or event and type of travel involved

ENSURE:

- Players are never left unattended during training/matches
- Adequate numbers of coaches/ helpers are available to supervise all activities
- Coaches and managers are aware where the players are and what they are doing. Dangerous behaviour should not be tolerated at any stage
- Ensure the respect for the privacy of all young people in changing rooms, showers and toilets, remain outside with easy access in case of an incident.
- In the event of mixed teams females should supervise the changing area for girls
- There should be sufficient separate changing facilities for mixed gender and mixed ages
- All participants are informed beforehand of what behaviour will be accepted and not accepted from them, use codes of conduct
- Those who are operating in a supervisory role should have access to adequate first aid material as well as all important local phone numbers

REFERENCES

IRFU Supervision and Safety:

- <https://d2cx26qpfwuhvu.cloudfront.net/irfu/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/04124449/Supervision-Safety.pdf>