

**TROUT ANGLERS
FEDERATION
OF IRELAND**

*Cónaidhm Iascairí Breac
na hÉireann*

The Official National Governing Organisation

Established 1931

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**CHILDREN IN TROUT ANGLING
POLICY**

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INTRODUCTION

The future of trout angling is dependant on energetic young people adopting this discipline of angling. The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland (TAFI) seeks to encourage children into trout angling as a leisure activity and as a sport.

It is of primary importance that children are introduced to the discipline of trout angling in a sensible and progressive way and that the principles of angling craft and practices are presented by properly qualified instructors. In this way, TAFI can ensure that the future and custody of the trout fisheries resource and the trout angling environment will be placed in good hands.

TAFI and its Members (Affiliated Clubs and Associations) have a duty of care to safeguard children involved in trout angling from harm. TAFI is committed to generating and maintaining the safest possible environment for children who wish to participate in trout angling and its related angling activities.

TAFI pledges to keep its child protection procedures under continual review.

KEY POLICY ISSUES

1 CHILD PROTECTION

In compliance with the Child Care Act, 1991 and the Child Care (Amendment) Act 2011, TAFI will take all necessary steps to protect children in its care from all discernable forms of abuse, harm, discrimination or degrading treatment and will ensure proper respect for their rights and person.

2 NATIONAL/POLICE VETTING

TAFI will ensure that its members, and others, who have function or contact with children in its Child Angling Programme, undergo National/Police Vetting and TAFI Authorised Signatories are appointed to oversee this process. TAFI has established a National/Police Vetting Policy.

3 COACHES, INSTRUCTORS AND VOLUNTEERS.

TAFI will ensure that Angling Coaches, Instructors and Volunteers are carefully selected, recruited and trained to the highest standards in the protection and welfare of children in trout angling.

4 SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN IN ANGLING

TAFI and its Members (Affiliated Clubs and Associations) will ensure proper supervision of child anglers at all TAFI angling events and other angling associated activities. TAFI will not allow child anglers unsupervised or improperly supervised on their waters or at other venues under their control.

5 SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILD ANGLERS

TAFI affiliated clubs and associations must comply with the following supervision requirements for child anglers:

- Child anglers must always be treated with respect and dignity.

- Child anglers must not be supervised by a lone adult except in a case of a welfare or medical emergency. Proper supervision requires the attendance of two or more adults.
- A child angler may not be in the company of a lone adult except in a case of a welfare or medical emergency or when the lone adult is a parent or legal guardian.
- Written consent must be had from parents or legal guardians for the participation of child anglers in angling activities that would require them to be taken away from parental control for any period of time. (This arises when teams are taking part in 'away' coaching activities, competitions and other angling related events).
- Parents and legal guardians must be advised that TAFI Members, team officials and coaches act *in loco parentis* and assume legal authority and responsibility over child anglers while in their care.
- The TAFI Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy will generally apply in child angling, however, the ultimate sanction on child anglers while in the care of TAFI officials is that they would be returned ('sent home') into the control of their parents or legal guardians.
- All incidents involving child anglers must be reported to the appropriate TAFI office and a written record kept to include actions taken.

6 INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGATIONS

All allegations of breaches of the Child Care Act or offences against child anglers will be investigated and dealt with by Central Council in accordance with the TAFI Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy and in compliance with statutory guidelines and relevant legislation.