Pickleball Ireland
Club Code of Conduct

Players, Parents/Guardians, and Coaches

Pickleball Ireland is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for everyone involved in our sport. This Code of Conduct for clubs that are formal members of Pickleball Ireland outlines the expected behaviour of players, parents/guardians, and coaches at all levels.

1. Players Must:

- Respect coaches, officials, teammates, and opponents at all times.
- Play fairly, be honest, and follow the rules of the game.
- Accept the decisions of referees and officials without argument.
- Use respectful language and never engage in bullying, discrimination, or harmful behaviour.
- Wear appropriate sports clothing and equipment for safety.
- Report anything that makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe to a trusted adult or coach.

2. Parents/Guardians Must:

- Support their child's participation in a positive and encouraging manner.
- Never publicly criticise coaches, referees, or other children.
- Ensure their child arrives on time, with the correct equipment and a positive attitude.
- Respect club volunteers and staff, and raise concerns privately and appropriately.
- Inform the coach of any medical or welfare concerns relating to their child.
- Follow all safeguarding and supervision guidelines, especially at events and competitions.

3. Coaches Must:

- Act as role models and promote fair play, safety, and enjoyment.
- Plan sessions appropriate to the age and ability of players.
- Never engage in one-to-one private contact with underage players (use group settings or involve another adult).

• Maintain professional boundaries and avoid any behaviour that could be misinterpreted.
• Complete Garda Vetting (ROI) or AccessNI checks (NI), and attend safeguarding training.
• Report any safeguarding concerns immediately to the Club Children's Officer or Designated Liaison Person (DLP).

Breaches of this Code

Violations of this code may result in action by the club or Pickleball Ireland, which could include warnings, suspension, or removal from participation, depending on the severity of the breach.

Declaration Form
(To be signed annually or at time of registration)

I have read and understood the **Pickleball Ireland Club Code of Conduct** and I agree to follow the standards outlined above and support a safe and respectful sporting environment.

Role

Parent/Guardian

Signed _____ Date _____
Coach

Signed _____ Date _____

Player

Signed _____ Date _____

Date of Approval: December 2025

Next Review : December 2026