

GAA Camp Policy and Guidance

Please be advised that before a club can hold or host a camp the following conditions must be met;

APPROVAL

Approval to hold such a camp must be applied for and granted by the relevant County Committee.

1. Approval will only be granted where the club holding the camp has in place a system to adhere to all recommended best practice guidance and only where suitably qualified persons are permitted to run these camps.
2. *Clubs who wish to run a summer camp must set aside a minimum of one week for a GAA Cúl Camp. If, for example, a Club wishes to run three weeks of summer camps, **their first camp must be a GAA Cúl Camp.**
3. Individual planning checklists for Club and Cúl Camps have been developed to assist clubs in meeting our best practice guidance. Checklists available in Appendix II and Appendix III must be completed and returned to the relevant County Committee

* Special dispensation can be granted by the relevant County Committee, Provincial Games Development Managers and the National Cúl Camps coordinator.

SUPERVISION RATIOS

Organisers of Camps must abide by supervision ratios that recommend a ratio of one adult for 8 children under 12 years of age teams and a ratio of 1:10 for children over 12 years of age. While abiding by such ratios a coach must always be accompanied by at least one other suitably qualified adult at all times.

COACHES (18 Years +)

- Minimum coaching qualifications to be held by persons coaching at camps
- All coaches must be vetted by one of the Gaelic Games Associations in accordance with legislation, prior to commencing their role
- Coaches must attend the Gaelic Games Associations Child Safeguarding Training, prior to commencing their role
- The number of coaches required are dependent on the number of children attending a camp as Supervisors and Camps Assistants do not have a coaching role

SUPERVISORS (18 Years +)

Supervisors may be appointed to act solely in a supervisory capacity, and it presents Club personnel to play an active role in the organising of Camps. Supervisor is not a coach, must be an adult and ideally should have a role in the Club e.g. parent, committee member, mentor of team etc. They must be in membership of the Association.

- Supervisors shall be vetted by one of the Gaelic Games Associations, prior to commencing their role
- Supervisors, as a minimum, shall attend the training provided for Camp Assistants, prior to commencing their role
- Supervisors may be included in the calculations for adult to child ratios

CAMP ASSISTANTS (18 Years +)

The role of Camp Assistant was devised to enable us to provide a role for young people between 16 and 18 yrs. of age who may wish to work at our Camps. The role is ideal for a young person who has been identified as one that may have future leadership or coaching potential. The Camp Assistant will ideally assist in setting up camp facilities and in showing skills to children, always under the direction of a coach. The Camp Assistant may not be used for the purpose of calculating adult to child ratios nor may they act in a supervisory role, due to their age.

- Camp Assistants must attend the camp assistant training programme, before they commence their role
- Camp Assistants must work under the direction of qualified coaches
- Must be vetted (16 yrs. plus)
- Must have the ability to show basic playing skills to children

Please see Appendix I, which outlines GAA National Policy and compliance with respect to GAA Cul Camps.