

National Children's Officer Position (Voluntary)

Hockey Ireland is currently seeking a passionate and dedicated individual to fill the role of **National Children's Officer**. This vital position champions the safety, rights, and well-being of young people within the sport, helping to create an inclusive, supportive, and safe environment for all youth participants.

Role Description

The National Children's Officer will:

- Serve as the primary contact for child protection and welfare within Hockey Ireland.
- Be part of and work with the National Safeguarding & Welfare Committee, along with CEO and Board Director responsible for Safeguarding.
- Guide the development and implementation of policies and procedures to safeguard young participants, ensuring adherence to national child protection standards.
- Work closely with provincial children's officers to promote a safe and welcoming environment for young people.
- Facilitate channels for young members and their guardians to voice concerns or issues related to child safety and well-being.

Required Skills and Qualifications

- **Qualifications:** Applicants should, at a minimum, have completed the Sport Irelands Safeguarding 1 (Child Welfare & Protection Basic Awareness workshop) and Sport Irelands Club Children's Officer workshop (or be willing to attend the course, all expenses will be covered)
- **Relevant Experience:** Previous experience in child protection, welfare, or a related field.
- **Understanding of Child Protection Legislation:** Familiarity with Irish child protection laws and standards, including Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children.
- **Communication Skills:** Strong written and verbal communication skills to engage effectively with youth, parents, clubs, and board members.
- **Integrity and Confidentiality:** Demonstrated commitment to handling sensitive information with professionalism and confidentiality.
- **Passion for Youth Development:** A genuine dedication to fostering positive experiences for young people in sport.

How to Apply

Interested candidates are invited to submit their expression of interest, outlining relevant experience and qualifications, to anne.mccormack@hockey.ie by 6th December.