



GAA FOR ALL

GAA

WHERE WE
ALL BELONG

Disability and Special Needs Policy



INTRODUCTION

Carlow GAA is committed to the inclusion of all persons with a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities, from here on referred to as a disability.

Our Commitment

Our organisation welcomes all members of the community, regardless of their abilities. We will include people with disabilities in our organisation in both playing and non-playing roles to the greatest extent that we can.

We will endeavour to make our organisation as inclusive and accessible as possible, based on our commitment to comply with the Equal Status Acts 2000-2012, the Disability Act 2005 and Article 30.5 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. We are also committed to fulfilling the requirement of the Sports Ireland Policy on Participation in Sport by People with Disabilities and to signing and engaging with the Sport Inclusion Disability Charter.

Our Mission

The mission of Carlow GAA is to value the ability and individuality of people with disabilities by providing everyone with the opportunities they need to reach their full potential as participants within an inclusive ethos/culture.

At Carlow GAA we will achieve disability inclusion by continually reviewing an approach that is implemented by the members, staff and management and by working in partnership with clubs, disability services and in consultation with people with disabilities and their families. This will ensure that our organisation is inclusive for everyone.

Accessibility

We are committed to ensuring that as far as reasonably practicable, our organisational environment, clubs, training and education and physical facilities are accessible to people with disabilities. We are ready to consider all reasonable adjustments that would, over time, help us to achieve this aim more fully and effectively.

POLICY

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Club Inclusion Policy

As such our club will:

- Provide a welcoming and open atmosphere for disabled club members
- Provide a programme of activities for disabled club members
- Ensure that all club facilities are disability friendly and adhere to the relevant legislation in reference to disabled access.
- Ensure club facilities are open to use by Special Needs Schools or other community groups who cater for persons with a disability
- Attend GAA CPD courses on disability, special needs and the promotion of disabled games
- Provide a programme of disabled games in conjunction with other local GAA clubs in the area

- Ensure that positive images and role models of disabled people and disabled coaches will be represented in all resources, promotional and publicity material
- Appoint an Executive Level officer with responsibility for linking with special schools and catering for members with disabilities
- Share good practice with other GAA/Sports Clubs
- Develop links with other sporting clubs through the Local Sports Council/Partnership to cater for disabled members
- Link with relevant statutory bodies in the area of disability

