



Takemusu Aikido Society

Children and Young People's Safeguarding Statement

Young People's safety and well-being are very important to Takemusu Aikido Society (TAS).

As an IMAC Affiliated Martial Arts Club we will do our utmost to teach the Martial Art of Aikido in an atmosphere of Fun, Fair and Safety.

TAS undertakes to:

- Make every effort to run the Club in a child-centred fashion.
- Run the Club in accordance with IMAC / TAS Child Protection Guidelines.
- Ensure all coaches and administrators are Garda-vetted through the National Vetting Unit.
- Ensure all coaches are appropriately qualified and have training in First Aid.
- Provide the opportunity for every young person's voice to be heard.
- Adhere to IMAC anti-bully policy.

Members, Parents/Guardians are expected to:

- Treat all members, instructors, and management with respect.
- (Members) To give your best in your martial arts training.
- (Guardians) Drop off and collect young people at agreed times and locations.
- (Guardians) Support the Coaches in running the club in line with Club Policy.

TAS is guided by the following policies:

- IMAC Young People's Policy.
- IMAC Garda Vetting Policy.
- Irish Anti-Doping Policy.

If you want to bring anything to the attention of the club regarding the welfare of the Children / Young People in this Club – or if you need further information, please contact our Childrens Officer:
Jan Toth – 086 329 7108.



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Section 1. Club Information

Takemusu Aikido Society (TAS) provides various sporting activities and opportunities for young people through participation in clubs, regional and international events.

- Club Name: Takemusu Aikido Society.
- Sport: Aikido.
- Location: Various Locations throughout Co. Dublin.
- Size: 2 Instructors, 1 Children officer, 16 members including 5 juvenile members.
- Activities: Aikido training, demonstrations, and opportunities for young people through participation in clubs, regional and international events.

Section 2. Principles to safeguard children from harm

TAS is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of IMAC Safeguarding Policies our staff, both volunteers and employed, working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop martial arts. All of our instructors have completed Garda Vetting and required Safeguarding courses where appropriate. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

- Importance of childhood - The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in sport.
- Needs of the child - All children's sport experiences should be guided by what is best for children. This means that adults should have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical and personal needs of young people.
- Integrity in relationships - Adults interacting with children in sport are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- Fair Play - All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasised, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- Quality atmosphere & ethos - Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- Equality - All children should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.



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Section 3. Risk Assessment

This TAS written risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process documents require to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
Club and Coaching Practices – Lack of coaching qualification. – Supervision issues. – Unauthorised photo/video recording. – Behavioural Issues.	– IMAC Coaching Policy – IMAC Coaching education policy – TAS Safeguarding policy – IMAC Code of Conduct / Safeguarding 1 / Complaints & Disciplinary policy.
Complaints & Discipline – Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy. – Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent – Complaints not being dealt with seriously	– IMAC Complaints Procedure / Young People's Policy. – IMAC Complaints Procedure / Young People's Policy. – IMAC Complaints Procedure / Young People's Policy.
Reporting Procedures – Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures – No DLP appointed. – Concerns of abuse or harm not reported. – Not clear who YP should talk to or report to.	– IMAC Young People's Policy. – IMAC Young People's Policy / TAS Safeguarding policy. – IMAC Reporting Procedure for Child Abuse – TAS Safeguarding policy/ Safety statement.
Use of Facilities – Unauthorised access to designated children’s play & practice areas & to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc. – Unauthorised exit from children’s areas. – Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas. – Missing or found child on site. – Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc...	– IMAC Young People's Policy / TAS Safeguarding policy. – IMAC Young People's Policy / TAS Safeguarding policy. – IMAC Young People's Policy / TAS Safeguarding policy. – IMAC Young People's Policy / TAS Safeguarding policy. – IMAC Young People's Policy / TAS Safeguarding policy.
Recruitment – Recruitment of inappropriate people. – Unqualified or untrained people in role.	– Recruitment policy. – Recruitment policy.
Communications – Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors. – No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Behaviour to members of visitors. – Unauthorised photography & recording	– TAS Safeguarding policy/ Safety statement / IMAC Training Policy. – Child Safeguarding Statement (display) / IMAC Code of Conduct. – TAS Safeguarding policy
General Risk of Harm – Harm not being recognised. – Harm caused by: Child to Child. / Coach to Child. Volunteer to Child / Member to Child. Visitor to Child. – General behavioural issues. – Issues of Bullying. – Vetting of staff/volunteers.	– TAS Safeguarding policy / Child Safeguarding Training. – TAS Safeguarding policy / Child Safeguarding Training. – IMAC Code of Conduct. – IMAC Anti-Bullying policy. – IMAC Vetting policy.

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 9 December 2023



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Section 4. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice (if 32 county insert equivalent in NI)).

In addition to our Risk Assessment document described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

TAS has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities.
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

Please note that all procedures listed are available on request. The Mandated/Relevant Person for NGB is Jan Toth.

Section 5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our Club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

Please note the following:

- That all staff have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed in a prominent place by the Club.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 01/12/2026

Name: Raman Bekarevich

Phone no: 083 026 4645