

Equal Opportunities Policy

St Brigid's GAC Belfast

POLICY STATEMENT

The club recognises the importance of affording equity, equal opportunity and fair treatment to all present and potential members.

The club aims to ensure that all people irrespective of their age, gender, ability, disability, race, religion, ethnic, origin, creed, colour, nationality, social status or sexual orientation have a genuine and equal opportunity to participate in Gaelic Games at all levels and in all roles. That is, as a beginner, participant or performer, and as a coach, official, referee, manager, administrator or spectator.

It is the aim of the club in its relationships with its members, and in the provision of its services not to disadvantage any individual by imposing any conditions or requirements, which cannot be justified. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action being taken. It respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat all equally.

Direct discrimination is defined as treating a person less favourably than others are or would be treated in the same or similar circumstances.

Indirect discrimination occurs when a requirement or condition is applied which, whether intentional or not, adversely affects a considerably larger proportion of people of one race, sex or marital status than another and cannot be justified on grounds other than race, sex or marital status.

The Club is to everyone having the right to enjoy Gaelic Games in an environment free from the threat of harassment, intimidation and abuse.

OBJECTIVES

The club's Equity Policy has the following objectives:

- To adopt a planned approach to eliminating perceived barriers which discriminate against particular groups. This will include widening the traditional approach and include communities experiencing disadvantage, poverty and health inequalities;
- To ensure that no-one working or wishing to work for or on behalf of the club receives less favourable treatment on the grounds outlined in the Policy Statement above;
- To give clear guidance to individuals working within the club, either employed or as volunteers, on the commitment to equal opportunities;

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- To ensure that all those who participate in Gaelic Games, at all levels and in all roles, receive fair and equitable treatment;
- To ensure that the format and content of all competitions, regulations and assessments provide equity for all, except where specific situations and conditions properly or reasonably prevent this;
- To ensure that all materials prepared, produced and distributed by or on behalf of the club promote a clear image of the profile of all those who are a part of the game.

RESPONSIBILITY

The club expects all those acting on behalf of the organisation to adhere to this policy. In pursuance of this policy the club reserves the right to discipline any of its members or employees who practice any form of discrimination as mentioned above.

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