Risk Assessment Document for *(Dressage Ireland)*

This risk assessment considers the potential for harm to come to children whilst they are in *(Dressage Ireland)'s* care. This risk assessment precedes the Child Safeguarding Statement (Section 11 (1b) Children First Act 2015) which is developed following this risk assessment process. In accordance with the requirements of Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015 the risk is of abuse and not general health and safety risk (covered under a separate H&S policy and risk assessment).

Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015 states that where a person proposes to operate as a provider of a relevant service, he or she shall, within 3 months from the date on which he or she commences as such a provider —

(a) Undertake an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of the service (in this section referred to as a "risk").

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to	Further Actions
CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES					
Lack of coaching qualification	L	- Coach Education Policy/Guidelines - Safeguarding Training Policy - Recruitment policy	Dressage Ireland	*Ensure all coaches have either experience or qualifications Ensure all coaches have safeguarding training and vetting*	*Ongoing Review of coaches*
Supervision issues	L	- Supervision policy - Codes of Conduct - Coach Education Policy/Guidelines	Dressage Ireland	*Children are accompanied by parents or approved guardians*	*Ongoing Review of activities*
Unauthorised photography & recording activities	H	Photography and Use of Images policy	Dressage Ireland	All signed up to photography policy	*Ongoing Review*
Behavioural Issues	M	- Codes of Conduct - Safeguarding Training Policy - Complaints & Disciplinary policy	Dressage Ireland	Children supervised and signed up to policies	*Ongoing Review*
Lack of gender balance amongst coaches	L	- Recruitment Policy - Supervision policy - Coach Education Policy/Guidelines	Dressage Ireland	Gender balance kept under review Policies in place	*Ongoing Review*

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to	Further Actions
No guidance for travelling and away trips	L	▪ Travel/Away trip policy ▪ Codes of Conduct ▪ Permission Forms ▪ Safeguarding Training Policy	Dressage Ireland	Children only travel with parents or guardians	*Ongoing Review*
Lack of adherence with misc procedures in Safeguarding policy (i.e. mobile, transport)	H	▪ HSI Code of Ethics Document ▪ Safeguarding Training Policy ▪ Complaints & disciplinary policy	Dressage Ireland	Everyone signed up to appropriate policies	*Ongoing Review*
COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE					
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	L	▪ Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy ▪ Communications procedure	Dressage Ireland	*All policies on website*	*Ongoing Review*
Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent	L	▪ Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy ▪ Communications procedure	Dressage Ireland	*Policies address communications*	*Ongoing Review*
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	L	▪ Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy	Dressage Ireland	*All complaints dealt with seriously*	*Ongoing Review*
REPORTING PROCEDURES					
Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures	L	▪ Reporting procedures/policy ▪ Safeguarding Training Policy ▪ Codes of Conduct /Behaviour	Dressage Ireland and HSI	All policies up on website	*Ongoing Review*
No Mandated Person appointed	L	▪ Reporting procedures/policy	NGB	*Report to Sport Ireland*	*Ongoing Review*
No DLP Appointed	L	▪ Reporting procedures/policy	Dressage Ireland	*Appointed Patricia Frost*	*Ongoing Review*
No NCO Appointed	L	▪ Reporting procedures/policy	Dressage Ireland	*Sinead McGrath*	*Ongoing Review*

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to	Further Actions
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	L	▪ Reporting procedures/policy ▪ Safeguarding Training Policy	Dressage Ireland	*Reporting procedures well documented*	*Ongoing Review*
Not clear who young people should talk to or report to	L	▪ Code of Ethics Document ▪ Safeguarding Training Policy	Dressage Ireland	*Ditto*	*Ongoing Review*
FACILITIES					
Unauthorised access to designated children's play & practice areas and to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.	N/A	▪ Supervision policy ▪ Coach Education Policy/Guidelines	Affiliate	*Clarify responsibilities before session starts*	*Ongoing Review*
Unauthorised exit from children's areas	N/A	▪ Supervision policy ▪ Coach Education Policy/Guidelines	Affiliate	*Clarify responsibilities before session starts*	*Ongoing Review*
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	N/A	▪ Photography policy and use of devices in private zones	Affiliate	*Enforce policy in private changing and wet areas*	*Ongoing Review*
Missing or found child on site	l	▪ Missing or found child policy	Dressage Ireland	*Refer to policy and inform Gardai/PSNI*	*Ongoing Review*
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.	N/A	▪ Safeguarding Training Policy	Affiliate	*Plan with facilities management to create a suitable child centred environment in shared facilities*	*Ongoing Review*
RECRUITMENT					
Recruitment of inappropriate people	l	▪ Recruitment policy	Dressage Ireland	Safeguarding policy and vetting in place	*Ongoing Review*
Lack of clarity on roles	L	▪ Recruitment policy ▪ Safeguarding Training Policy	Dressage Ireland		*Ongoing Review*

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to	Further Actions
Unqualified or untrained people in voluntary roles	M	▪ Recruitment policy ▪ Safeguarding Training Policy	Dressage Ireland	*Ongoing volunteer policy being rolled out*	*Ongoing Review*
COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA					
Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors	L:	▪ Child Safeguarding Statement ▪ Safeguarding Training Policy	Dressage Ireland and HSI	*Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement*	*Ongoing Review*
No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Behaviour to members or visitors	L	▪ Child Safeguarding Statement – display ▪ Code of Behaviour - distribute	Dressage Ireland and HSI	*Communicate Child Safeguarding Statement*	*Ongoing Review*
Unauthorised photography & recording of activities	L	▪ Photography and Use of Images policy	Dressage Ireland	Participants agree to policy	*Ongoing Review*
Inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18's	L	▪ Photography and Use of Images policy ▪ Codes of conduct	Dressage Ireland	Participants agree to policy	*Ongoing Review*
Inappropriate use of social media and communications with under 18's	L	▪ Photography and Use of Images policy ▪ Codes of conduct	Dressage Ireland	Participants agree to policy	*Ongoing Review*
GENERAL RISK OF HARM					
Harm not being recognised	L	▪ Safeguarding Training Policy	Dressage Ireland	*Policy in place*	*Ongoing Review*
Harm caused by - child to child - coach to child - volunteer to child - member to child		▪ HSI Code of Ethics Document ▪ Safeguarding Training Policy ▪ Codes of Conduct	Dressage Ireland	Policy in place	*Ongoing Review*

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to	Further Actions
- visitor to child					
General behavioural issues		▪ Codes of Conduct ▪ Recruitment Policy	Dressage Ireland	Policy in place	*Ongoing Review*

This Risk Assessment document has been discussed and completed by _Dressage Ireland_ on: _ ____28/11/23_____ . *The risk assessment for purposes of the Children First Act 2015 and the organisations Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed every two years.*

Signed: _____   Signed: _____

Name: Name:

Role: Dressage Ireland *National Children's Officer*   Role: *Dressage Ireland Chairperson*

Date: Date:

Explanation of terms used:

- **Potential risk of harm to children** – these are identified risks of harm to children whilst accessing activities in the Affiliate

- **Likelihood of harm happening** – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the Affiliate measured by you as Low, Medium or High.

- **Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document** – indication of the policy required to alleviate the risk.

- **Responsibility** – provider should indicate where the responsibility for alleviating the risk lies.

- **Further action** - indicates further action that might be necessary to alleviate any risk ongoing.

- **Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to** - The steps you take to alleviate risks presently

- **NGB** – National Governing Body

- **NCO** – National Children's Officer

- **MP** – Mandated Person (Appointed by the NGB as a requirement under the Children's First Act 2015)

Please see below, three examples of how we might complete the relevant sections within the risk assessment table, identifying the level of risk, who is responsible, what action may be needed and what actions we are already taking:

Example 1

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to	Further Actions
CLUB & COACHING PRACTICES					
Lack of coaching qualification	L	▪ Safeguarding Training Policy ▪ Recruitment policy	Affiliate	*Coaches must have Garda Vetting, completed Safeguarding 1 Training. References are checked.*	*Ongoing review to ensure we adhere to the recruitment guidelines*

Example 2

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to	Further Actions
COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE					
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	H	▪ Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy ▪ Communications procedure	Affiliate and NGB		*Immediate Action Required – Make reporting procedures available to members*

Example 3

Potential risk of harm to children	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Club/Region/National	Mitigating Factors presently In place /adhered to	Further Actions
RECRUITMENT					
Recruitment of inappropriate people	M	▪ Recruitment policy	Affiliate	*Rigidly follow the recruitment procedures as set out in our Code of Ethics Document*	*Ongoing review to adhere to policy*