

BIPHA South Safeguarding of Under 18's playing in the senior league

This policy has been written to ensure the protection and welfare of both juniors playing up into the senior league and senior players.

- It is an important aspect for the development of the game to allow juniors to play up into the senior league as they reach the top end of the junior league. This helps the development and continuation of the senior teams as well as well as the development of individual players.
- Junior players who have turned 15 are eligible to play up into the senior league.
- Any team that has eligible junior players must have coaches and or bench officials with a valid DBS certificate.
- Teams with juniors training and playing must be aware of safeguarding for their own and the child's protection.
- Parents and children must understand that they are playing in a senior league and will therefore be subject to actions and words that would not be appropriate in a junior league.
- Parents and children must understand that the physicality of the game will be greater due to the nature of it being played by seniors.
- Junior players must wear a full face cage and all body protection as would be required in the junior league.
- Parents must sign a waiver stating that they understand the realities of playing in the senior league and that this therefore comes with certain expectations regarding conduct and behaviour.
- The Club must have consent from parent/guardian that a child can share a changing area and bench with adults. A person on the team should have a valid DBS check and should be sensitive too and aware of the young person.