Vienna Gaels

Safety Statement

Vienna Gaels_Approval form		
Name/Role	Signature	Date
Dylan Harnett/ Chairperson	Dylan Harnett	28.10.2026
Friederike Vogler/Secretary	Friederike Vogler	28.10.2026
Elisa Cola/Health and Safety	Elisa Cola	28.10.2026

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Section 1: Health and Safety Policy

The Vienna Gaels GAA club is committed to promoting and supporting the development of the local community through Gaelic Games and Culture and to use the resultant sense of place to create a constructive, inclusive, and positive *tir grá* for the surrounding area.

We are strongly committed to encouraging our members to take part in all activities bearing in mind that the health, well-being, and safety of each individual is always our paramount concern. We recommend levels of training and participation dependent on age and ability and expect our players to participate within these boundaries. It is the policy of the Vienna Gaels to promote standards of health and safety within the club which will lead to the avoidance or reduction in risks to health and safety, to continually improve our safety performance and to ensure that the best practicable methods of compliance with the Safety, Health and Welfare guidelines are achieved. This Safety Statement outlines the policy of the Vienna Gaels in relation to the management of health and safety. The Vienna Gaels club is committed to managing and conducting our activities in such a way as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety, health and welfare of our members and others who may be affected by the club's activities.

This will be achieved by the following (so far as is reasonably practicable):

- the provision of a safe buildings, play and training areas, including safe access and egress;
- the provision of welfare facilities;
- the provision of appropriate information, instruction, training and supervision;
- determining and implementing appropriate preventative and protective measures;
- having regard to the general principles of prevention;
- the provision of emergency plans and procedures;
- obtaining, when necessary, the services of a competent person to advise on health and safety.

The detailed arrangements for achieving these objectives are set out in the main body of the Safety Statement. The Vienna Gaels is also committed to managing and conducting club activities in such a way as to prevent, as far as is reasonably practicable, any improper conduct or behaviour (including bullying/harassment) likely to put the safety, health or welfare of members at risk. The Chairperson of the Vienna Gaels has overall responsibility for health and safety within the club. Members share this responsibility in ensuring their own safety while participating in activities. Members are encouraged to put forward suggestions for improvement to this document. The Safety Statement will be reviewed in light of experience and future developments within the club.

Signed by: Dylan Harnett Location/Date: Vienna, 28.10.2026

Dylan Harnett, Chairperson Vienna Gaels

Section 2: Emergency Contacts

Club responsible person	Name/Telephone number
Chairperson	Dylan Harnett / +353 86 454 0688
Secretary	Friederike Vogler / +43 664 8662636
Football Officer	James McGinley / +44 7933 047872
Hurling/Camogie Officer	Seamus Gilhooley / +43 670 6084018
Handball Officer	Darren Gleeson / +43 676 5018203

FIRST AIDERS

The following club members are trained in First Aid:

Name	Club role
Anneliese O´Malley	Club member
Craig Zarnosky	Club member/Hurling and Camogie coach
Eavan Fitzgerald	Club member/Football coach
Esther Wundsam	Club member
Fergal Hayes	Club member
Giulia Dalle Nogare	Club member
James McGinley	Football officer/Football coach
Joe Youorski	Club member
Kieran Lyster	Club member
Laoise Rodgers	Club member/Football coach
Liam Ryan	Club member
Lorka Ó hAnnracháin	Hurling and Camogie Officer/Hurling and Camogie coach

2.1 First Aid Kit

A First Aid kit is kept at Rugby Union Donau training ground (Meiereistraße 20, Wien 1020) and at USZ (Union Sport Zentrum) Hietzing (Altgasse 6, 1130 Wien).
The First AID kit includes all the essentials for treatment of minor injuries such as bruises, abrasions, small cuts and is provided with instant cooling packs to be used in case of minor muscle injuries.

An AED/Defibrillator is available at the Paddle bar/kiosk at Rugby Union Donau training ground and on the stairs that lead to the changing rooms at USZ Hietzing.

First Aid Kits will be taken to all club activities off the premises, these are kept together with the relative sports equipment at pitch side during games.

Persons responsible for keeping First Aid kits stocked is the Health and Safety Officer.

Section 3: Roles and Duties

All members of the Vienna Gaels have the responsibility to ensure Health and Safety during training and games activities.

Members have the following duties:

- To take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions.
- To co-operate with the committee members or any other person to enable players to comply with health and safety regulations
- To correctly use any appliance, protective clothing, convenience, equipment or other means provided for securing safety, health and welfare.
- To respect the property of equipment belonging to the club and/or to other members
- To report to any committee member, without delay any defects of which he/she becomes aware in equipment, place of work or system of work, which might endanger safety, health or welfare.
- Not to intentionally or recklessly interfere with any safety measure provided.

In addition, each member of the Vienna Gaels is required to report to their chairperson/secretary/health and safety officer immediately any accident resulting in loss or injury and any dangerous occurrence which could have resulted in loss or injury.

3.1 Stop Activities Orders

All members have the responsibility and authority to stop activities immediately, without fear of reprisal where they consider an imminent danger to be present. The danger may pose a threat to their own health and safety or the health and safety of others. It may also adversely affect the local environment. Timing is a critical factor. There should not be any delay in calling for a stop activities order.
There shall be no blame or fault placed on a member for calling for a stop activity order even if following an investigation, it was deemed unnecessary.

Activities that have ceased a stop activities order shall not be resumed until all safety aspects are cleared.

Section 4: Organizational Chart

The Vienna Gaels club is organized and administered in accordance with the GAA club structure guidelines. Members of the committee are elected every year, in a democratic way, as well as a sport officer for each of the sports provided. Each board member (committee and officers) is aware and informed of its own responsibilities. Each board member is informed about the club activities, goals and future plan through regular meetings organized and led by the Chairperson and Secretary. Club members have the opportunity to be involved in the club decision making at any point during the year and in particular during the annual club AGM.

4.1 Health And Safety Roles And Responsibilities

Chairperson and Committee:

The Chairperson of the Vienna Gaels along with the committee and club members have ultimate responsibility for all aspects of Health and Safety in the club.

The Chairperson and the committee have overall responsibility for the running of the Club and as such are responsible for protecting the health and safety of all affected by the club's activities.

The Chairperson together with the Health and Safety Officer will provide the necessary resources to implement and administer the Safety Policy and will ensure that appropriate arrangements and systems are put in place to enable the effective management of the Health and Safety function.

They will actively encourage, monitor and participate in initiatives designed to improve Health and Safety in the Club.

To achieve this, the Chairperson and Committee ensure that the responsibilities and authorities for relevant roles are assigned, communicated and understood for the Health and Safety within the club.

4.1.1 Responsibilities of the Chairperson

The Chairperson will ensure that:

- Adequate resources are made available so that the Safety Policy can be carried out efficiently
- All committee members are fully aware of their responsibilities in relation to safety and health
- All club members are accountable for their performance in relation to safety and health
- The Safety Statement is reviewed regularly, and its operation monitored in agreement with the Health and Safety Officer

4.1.2 Responsibilities of the Committee

Committee will ensure that:

- Safe systems and practises are incorporated into all activities in the club
- All activities are continually monitored and that any potential unhealthy or dangerous practices are reported and eradicated
- Any wilful breach of safety rules is reported and that the club disciplinary procedure is activated if it is deemed necessary

In relation to training and playing facilities, they shall ensure that:

- All areas of the training and playing ground are adequate and safe to use
- All the safety equipment needed are provided in adequate numbers
- All the safety equipment needed are in good condition

4.1.3 Responsibilities of the Secretary

As part of the club committee, the Secretary responsibilities are as mentioned above

4.1.4 Responsibilities of the Coaches and Mentors

Coaches and Mentors will ensure that:

- All coaching activities in the various sections are carried out according to guidelines laid down by the Club.
- Sufficient coaches are available to ensure safe supervision
- Any issue or suspected danger is reported promptly to the Committee that will take immediate action

4.1.5 Responsibilities of the Health and Safety Officer

As part of the club committee, the Health and Safety Officer will ensure as stated above and in addition:

- Ensuring compliance with the Codes of Practice for Safety at Sports grounds and any other relevant guides or legislation.
- A fully equipped First Aid Kit is available at the club at all times

- Any first AID training, if required, is discussed, authorised and put into practise
- Attending all pre-event planning meetings to ensure adhesion to the safety guidelines to all the event organised by the club
- Ensuring all medical provisions such as ambulances, medical personnel and medical equipment are in place.
- Updating and housekeeping the Club Safety Statement in agreement with the club Chairperson.

4.1.6 Contractors and Self Employed

In case the Vienna Gaels will contracts out some work activities, the committee recognize that it has a duty of care to take all reasonably practicable steps to secure the safety of sub-contractors and their employees.

Section 5: Emergency Procedures

5.1 Fire

5.1.1 Buildings and training grounds

Due to the fact that all the building and facilities that the Vienna Gaels club uses or have access to are not property of the Vienna Gaels, each club member is invited to follow the local fire regulations and respect the fire prevention measures provided by the building property management. Any club member will therefore ensure that:

- Take all reasonable measures to guard against the outbreak of fire.
- Ensure as far as is reasonably practical the safety of persons on the premises in the event of an outbreak of fire.
- If necessary contact the Fire Service by dialing 122 and giving clear directions to the exact location of the fire.
- Do not re-enter the building for any reason until given all-clear by Fire Service.
- Notify the committee of any fire event, large or small

5.1.2 Other Sites (Pubs/restaurants)

Same regulations as above applies.

5.2 Serious Injury

In the event of an accident-causing major injury to any person in the club the chairperson or secretary must be informed immediately and must then direct the following procedures:

- Observe accident location and status of injured person.
- Call for immediate medical assistance and/or emergency services.
- Administer First Aid if trained to do so.
- Ensure full and clear directions are given to emergency service to aid speed of response.
- Get suitable person to travel to hospital with the injured person, when possible.
- Inform the person´s emergency contact.
- Inform the executive committee without delay.
- Collect as much information as possible about circumstances and details of the accident.
- Take photos of the area where the accident occurred, when considered necessary
- Obtain witness statements and write them word for word, when considered necessary
- Contact the relevant authorities, when considered necessary (police department telephone number 133)

5.3 Other Emergencies

Any serious accident or incident will be treated as an emergency. The relevant authorities must be contacted and the committee members must be informed.

5.4 Accident Reporting/Investigation

It is good practice to keep track of any incident occurred in order to prevent it from happening again. Severe injuries should be documented so to have proven record to be submitted to the relevant authorities for insurance compensation purposes.

All severe injuries are documented using the Vienna Gaels Accident Report Form available upon request from the Health and Safety officer. A version of the the Accident Report Form is attached at the end of the present Safety Statement.
Chairperson and secretary in particular but generally all committee members should be promptly informed.

Section 6: General Arrangements

6.1 Safety Consultation/Safety Representative

The Vienna Gaels club recognizes the importance of members consultation in contributing to a safe Club. To facilitate consultation the Health and Safety Officer has been selected to act as Safety Representative.

Club members are encouraged to put forward submissions or suggestions regarding health and Safety issues to the Health and Safety Officer.

All reasonably practical steps will be taken to act on any concerns or suggestions.

Also, regular meetings are held with committee members at which Health and Safety issues are discussed.

Health and Safety issues affecting members are communicated

Club members are encouraged to contact the club with any concerns they may have.

6.2 Induction Training

All club members are instructed and informed about health and safety measures when registering to the club.

All members will be introduced to the available safety measures at the training ground and will be offered them the chance to take part in a first aid training if they are willing to do so.

6.3 Ongoing Training

Training needs will be assessed regularly and where a requirement for further training is identified, arrangements will be put in place for such training to be provided by a competent person.

Signed attendance records will be kept for all training completed and will be used to fill up the FIRST AIDERs table present in this Safety Statement document.

6.4 Visitors Policy And Procedure

A visitor is any person other than a club member, who has been given permission to attend a club event for a specific named purpose. All visitors must be instructed and encourage by the club members to follow the club health and safety regulation.

If visitors are associated/related to a specific club member, it is responsibility of that club member to guarantee that their code of conduct respects the club health and safety measures.

If a visitors aren´t or don´t seem to be associated to any specific club member, it is responsibility of each member to ensure that they don´t represent a danger for any club member and that the safety and health guidelines are respected at all time.

6.5 Waste Disposal

It is the policy of the Vienna Gaels to:

- Dispose of any waste generated on the site in a safe and appropriate manner.
- Follow the direction given by the property management concerning appropriate disposal of material
- Each Club member is encouraged to follow an adequate conduct concerning waste disposal

6.6 Personal Protective Equipment

For what concern sport safety and safety equipment, the Vienna Gaels recognizes its duty to provide and encourage club members to wear the adequate protective equipment when playing a sport or when near an area with potential risks. The Vienna Gaels recognizes also that the protective equipment cannot guarantee a 100% safety but that they represent an important measure to prevent severe injuries.

The protective equipment provided/recommended consist of:

- Appropriate footwear (ex. Boots when playing field sports)
- Helmet
- Mouthgards (when necessary)
- Gloves (if necessary)

Members will be reminded by coaches and health and safety officers of the importance of the correct use of protective equipment. Committee member and Officers reserve for themselves the ability to exclude a member from training and/or game in case the use of protective equipment is not followed.

Section 7: Revision of Safety Statement

- This Safety Statement is a continuous document and will be reviewed at least annually by the Health and Safety Officer and the Chairperson.
- Where a significant change occurs in the activities of the Club which has an impact on Health and Safety, the Safety Statement will be revised to take account of risks arising from and controls required for such changes.
- The Safety Statement will also be reviewed in the event of any accident, incident or dangerous occurrence in order to avoid such happenings being repeated.
- Suggestions or representations put forward by club members shall be considered and where appropriate included in updated Safety Statement.

Section 8: Resources Provided For The Management Of Safety Health And Welfare.

The Vienna Gaels club is committed to providing the necessary resources to properly manage Safety, Health and Welfare of the club.

8.1 Finance

Each year sufficient funds will be made available to provide training, safety signs, protective equipment etc. The amount budgeted will be reviewed annually and increased if necessary.

8.2 Time

Sufficient time will be allocated for safety meetings and staff consultations.

8.3 Training

To all members interested in the club health and safety will be given the chance to be properly trained on First AID procedures.

8.4 Professional Advice

Where necessary the services of a professional competent person will be employed.

Section 9: Member Declaration

By becoming a member of the Vienna Gaels, each one automatically agrees with the present Safety Statement.

The present Safety Statement can be provided upon request and it is open to revision to each club member.

Section 10: Revision History

Revision History		
Issue	**Date**	**Reasons for Issue / Re-Issue**
Version 1	May 2026	Document introduced to the Official Club Document
Version 1	October 2026	Document officially released.

Printable table for Health and Safety during trainings or games

Training and Games at pitch	
Current Controls	**Actioned**
Training & Games must always be supervised by team mentors	**Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐**
The proper equipment is in place and used correctly	**Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐**
Youth players must play in the correct age group.	**Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐**
Mouthguards/gum must be worn when required	**Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐**
Access to club first aid kit & defib (AED) at all training sessions and games.	**Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐**
All players must be registered as playing members with the club. Unregistered players not covered under the insurance.	**Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐**
Have as many first aiders available as possible during training and matches.	**Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐**
Adequate lighting is provided and is appropriate for the training or match being played.	**Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐**
Keep exits clear at all times ensuring emergency services can access and egress the playing area safely.	**Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐**
Contact emergency services immediately if required. If unsure of the persons injury, make the patient comfortable as possible without moving them until the emergency services arrive.	**Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐**
Additional Controls or Information	

Section 11: Supplementary documents

Supplementary to the present document are the ´Vienna Gaels Accident Report Form´ and the ´Vienna Health and Safety Guidelines`