



Owen Roe O'Neill's GAC Leckpatrick



DISABILITY & SPECIAL NEEDS POLICY

Owen Roe O'Neill's GAC, Leckpatrick is committed to the inclusion of all persons with a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities, from here on referred to as a disability.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Club Equality Policy

As such our club will:

- Provide a welcoming and open atmosphere for disabled club members
- Provide a programme of activities for disabled club members
- Ensure that all club facilities are disability friendly and adhere to the relevant legislation in reference to disabled access.
- Ensure club facilities are open to use by Special Schools or other community groups who cater for persons with a disability
- Attend Ulster GAA CPD courses on disability, special needs and the promotion of disabled games
- Provide a programme of disabled games in conjunction with other local GAA clubs in the area
- Ensure that positive images and role models of disabled people and disabled coaches will be represented in all resources, promotional and publicity material
- Appoint a Executive Level officer with responsibility for linking with special schools and catering for members with disabilities
- Share good practice with other GAA/Sports Clubs
- Develop links with other sporting clubs through the Local Sports Council/Partnership to cater for disabled members
- Link with relevant statutory bodies in the area of disability

Monitoring and Evaluation

A comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system will be developed to ensure the successful implementation of the disability policy. A report will be given to the club executive committee on a regular basis with an overall report given at the Club Annual General Meeting.

Signed (Cathaoirleach) _____

Signed (Rúnaí) _____





Owen Roe O'Neill's SAC Leckpatrick



SPECIAL NEEDS POLICY

We at Eoghain Rua Ui Neill actively encourage everyone to participate in our games especially those with special needs.

"George" only has the use of his right eye therefore coaching sessions have to be adapted to cater for his needs. Due to the fact that George's disability is quite obvious both the coaching team and playing team make specific allowances for him on the pitch. He is played on the left side of the pitch whereby the majority of the time his opponent is on his "good" side. This also carries through to training drills and all players are asked to be very vocal in their play i.e giving directions when delivering and collecting the ball in order to assist George with his play. Also darkness is a factor in George's condition therefore adequate lighting is required for his safety.

"Ethan", another playing member has mild cerebral palsy which mainly affects his right leg. Training sessions are adapted to facilitate him as he can tire quite easily and running can prove difficult over a sustained period. He is actively encouraged at all times and the coaching team have a special codeword/signal whereby they are made aware that he is beginning to tire therefore they bring him out of the drill alongside a few others and change the drill to ball work, so as not to draw attention to Ethan as his disability is not very obvious.

Both these players are on the starting teams for their age groups and play competitive football. They are both great testament to the club and the coaching programmes that allow them to partake in a sport which they enjoy.

