

2.2 Template: General risk assessment

A general risk assessment should be conducted every year. It aims to identify risks and the necessary actions to reduce or remove them. Conducting a regular risk assessment also helps to implement the child safeguarding policy – depending on the actions identified, these can be incorporated into a child safeguarding action plan.

The items included in the template are suggestions only and should be adapted to the individual association/club. After the hazards have been identified, the specific risks to children should be pinpointed. For example, a 'lack of coaching qualifications' could result in children being injured or left unsupervised. Each risk/concern should then be rated as high, medium or low, according to the likelihood of it occurring. The action required to manage/reduce the risk should be identified for each.



Potential hazard/cause of concern	Likelihood of harm happening: low/ medium/high (L/M/H)	Specific risk/concern as a result of the hazard, i.e. what could happen	Action required	Action by when/ whom		
CLUB AND COACHING PRACTICES						
Lack of coaching qualifications						
Lack of supervision						
Lack of guidance for trips, etc.						
Poor practices, e.g. activities not age-appropriate						
Inappropriate discipline						
PERSONNEL						
Recruitment of inappropriate peo- ple working directly with children						
Lack of training on safeguarding for coaches						
Unqualified or untrained people in role						
Volunteers lack knowledge of and training on safeguarding						
Other adults with access to children, e.g. security or medical staff						
COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE						
Concerns about behaviour of some adults and peers towards children						
Absence of a complaints and disciplinary procedure within the organisation						
Complaints not being dealt with seriously						
REPORTING PROCEDURES						
Lack of awareness of safeguarding policy/code of conduct						
Lack of procedures for reporting to local authorities/agencies, e.g. police, social services						
Lack of clear policies and procedures						
Child/adults unsure how to report concerns and who to talk to						



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FACILITIES						
Equipment in poor condition/ dangerous						
Unauthorised access to designated children's areas and to changing rooms, toilets, etc.						
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas						
Children sharing facilities with adults, e.g. dressing rooms, showers						
TRANSPORT AND TRAVEL						
Transport between venues/training is unsafe						
Safeguarding checks have not been carried out on drivers						
No guidance for travelling and trips away, e.g. medical care, overnights, car sharing						
GENERAL ISSUES						
Unauthorised photography and recording of activities						
Inappropriate use of social media and communication between under-18s and adults or peers						
High tolerance of physical violence and injuries						
General behavioural issues						