

# **SAVANNAH GAA CODE OF CONDUCT AND BEST PRACTICES FOR CLUB MEMBERS**

## **MISSION**

The Savannah Gaelic Athletic Association strives to enhance the Savannah community through the Irish sports of hurling, camogie and Gaelic football. Our community includes players, coaches, volunteers, sponsors, club members, friends and family. Our club's goal is to promote Irish culture in the Savannah area through community engagement in the form of practices, friendly matches, competitive games and tournaments, social gatherings and other community events.

## **APPLICABILITY**

Savannah GAA abides by all rules and bylaws from USGAA. The following is intended to be in addition to the USGAA code of conduct. The document is applicable to all members representing Savannah GAA in any occasion.

## **CLUB STANDARDS OF CONDUCT [PLAYERS, NON-PLAYING MEMBERS, COACHES]**

Players, coaches, club members, spectators and representatives of the club will adhere to the following principles of behavior, either on or off the field; including social gatherings organized by our club and on social media:

- Harassment of any type: sexual, verbal, or physical will not be tolerated
- Bullying will not be tolerated
- Any player or member, regardless of prior experience, race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, age or background, will be welcomed to the team
- Be of good moral character and integrity, upholding the highest level of sportsmanship
- Disagreements in the form of shouting, arguing, or physical altercation with referees, officials or other players, teammates, or opponents, on or off the pitch, will not be tolerated
- Respect club equipment and other player's property
- All members will remember that they represent the club, on and off the pitch, and will conduct themselves accordingly in public and online communities, including social media
- Players will actively participate in club activities including fundraising and special events
- Players accept they are not guaranteed playing time and respect the coach's decision
- Coaches should seek to involve all players and will take into consideration the attendance history of players when assigning jerseys, playing time, etc.

## **PROCEDURES FOR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR**

The Savannah GAA has a zero-tolerance policy for inappropriate behavior. If you experience or witness any of the following behavior at any Savannah GAA event, or on any Savannah GAA

websites, publications or on social media, please report it immediately to a coach or committee member:

- Racism
- Sexism
- Sexual Harassment
- Abuse: Verbal or Physical
- Intolerance of a person's religion, gender identity or sexual orientation
- Behaving in a way that disturbs the enjoyment of the event/discussion for other people
- Any other actions deemed to be intentionally hurtful, harmful, threatening or inappropriate

Reports can be made in person, via text or phone communication, or sent to [SavannahGAA@gmail.com](mailto:SavannahGAA@gmail.com). The receiving committee member(s) and/or coach(es) will respect the request of any player who wishes to remain anonymous when reporting inappropriate behavior or providing any other feedback for improvement.

Committee member(s) and/or coach(es) will deem the appropriate actions to take, if any, depending on the circumstance, and will always aim to protect players and provide them with an environment that is safe and without risks to health, mental or physical, violence, aggression or intended offense.

Violation of the above standards of conduct or engagement in inappropriate behavior may result in game suspension, player probation or expulsion from the club.

## **POLICY & ELIGIBILITY**

This code of conduct should be signed by all members when registering. A player is not eligible to participate in game play until a signed copy has been received by the club. This document will also be available on our website for public reference at any time.

By signing below, I verify that I have read and understand the above statements and agree to adhere to the Savannah GAA standards of conduct and behavior.

Player signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_