



IABA National Safeguarding Report 2022

Safeguarding has seen big strides made in the last few months, from the numerous Garda Vetting & Access NI applications, club safeguarding statements and risk assessments which are signed by clubs in their affiliations each year, and in particular the Safeguarding Self-Assessment Audit.

The Sport Ireland Club Safeguarding Self-Assessment Audit 2021-2022 is designed to enable clubs to:

- Self-assess adherence to Safeguarding Policies and procedures
- Identify gaps and actions areas

And enable IABA to:

- Gain an overview of Safeguarding adherence
- Identify any issues of non-compliance
- Identify supports clubs may need to become compliant

The IABA will continue to support clubs through this audit in these ways:

- Providing access links to the online audit process.
- Providing a step-by-step guide to completing the audit process.
- Providing access to video resources to guide clubs through the audit completion process.
- Providing advice, support, and guidance through the IABA's Safeguarding Officer.

177 clubs that began the process and 166 have completed. The 11 remaining clubs will be contacted in the coming days.

Summary

Children who have positive early experiences of boxing are more likely to continue to some degree of lifelong participation.

This contributes to their ongoing physical and emotional wellbeing in adulthood.

Boxing, therefore, has a lot to offer children – provided it takes place in an environment that is safe, promotes enjoyment, and respects the physical and emotional health and wellbeing of each individual athlete.

This report, on the work of IABA National Safeguarding Manager, the late Declan Lynch, was prepared and delivered by National Club Development Manager

4th December, 2022