



## **Draft Policy Document on Safeguarding Children**

### **Irish Association of Barbershop Singers**

**March 2018**

IABS is currently involved with schools, to promote the singing in the Barbershop style among young people aged 15 to 22. In order to ensure that this work is in line with established best practice in Child Safety and in keeping with 'Our Duty to Care' (Dept. of Children & Youth Affairs), we are currently in the process of developing our policy re safeguarding Children and young persons.

#### **Interim Policy for all IABS events involving participation by persons under the age of 18:**

1. All events held under the auspices of IABS will have prior approval of the IABS Executive Board, including those organised by the Youth sub-committee in accordance with its remit from the Executive.
2. Each event will have a designated Child Safety Supervisor (CSS) who will ensure these interim measures are observed, supervising in a discreet, supportive manner. CSS's are appointed by the Executive Board in conjunction with the Youth sub-committee.
3. Pending completion of the policy on Safeguarding Children, IABS will take all reasonable steps to ensure that coaches and volunteers are persons in good standing and suitable to work with children.
4. Volunteers are accepted subject to the understanding that they do not pose any risk to children or young people and would not be deemed as such by any statutory authority, and that their continued involvement with IABS Youth events will be subject to Garda vetting once access to this service becomes available to IABS.
5. Each event will have a clearly stated start and finish time. All participants, both young people and adults, are required to sign in and the record will be kept pending completion of the policy and thereafter as required by the policy.
6. Travel to and from events is not provided by IABS. Parents should be aware of and approve children's mode of transport.
7. Coaching will take place in an open setting where possible and practicable, or otherwise as far as practicable with more than one adult present. Smaller group coaching where only one adult is present, such as sectional work, will be notified to and approved in advance by the designated CSS. Any necessary one-to-one coaching will take place in a non-private, open

door setting and be easily conducive to the requirements of third party supervision (as at 2 above)

8. Volunteers are asked to avoid any situation that might be mis-construed as untoward.
9. A copy of this interim document and/or any updated version, will be given to each volunteer who will be asked to sign below before commencing.
10. A copy of this document, and/or any updated version, will be made available to parents and others who request information on IABS Safeguarding Children policy.

**Volunteer Declaration:** I have read the above. I declare there is no reason for any authority to deem me unsuitable to work with children. Pending completion of the policy 'Safeguarding Children', I agree to abide by the requirements if items 4,5,6,7, & 8 above.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_