

# Memorandum of Understanding

Between

The Athletic Association of Ireland (AAI)

and

Athletics Northern Ireland (ANI)

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Changes</b>
1.0	25 <sup>th</sup> of March 2018	Kieron Stout	New Version
1.1	9 <sup>th</sup> of October 2018	Kieron Stout & Allister Woods	Review with ANI
1.2	31 <sup>st</sup> of October 2018	Kieron Stout & Allister Woods	Additions from ANI adapted

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forward the terms and understanding between the Athletic Association of Ireland (AAI) and Athletics Northern Ireland (ANI) on how both organisations agree to govern the sport of athletics within the North and South of Ireland. Athletics is an every-day activity for many children and makes a significant contribution to their wellbeing and development. AAI and ANI acknowledge their duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and Sport Ireland/Sport Northern Ireland requirements.

## Background

Partnership between AAI and ANI is important to facilitate the good governance of the sport of athletics within both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland for the mutual benefit of all affiliated clubs and members.

## Purpose

This MOU will cover the following:

1. The responsibility for child protection matters as determined by legislation and/or the statutory authorities in each jurisdiction are the responsibility of the Governing Body for that territory.
2. Both Governing Bodies, (AAI & ANI), will cooperate with each other when and as required on case management processes. This will include mirroring the suspension of membership or standing down of sports leaders in both AAI and ANI when required or after sanctions have been applied by either Governing Body.
3. Clubs affiliated to ANI or clubs based in Northern Ireland which choose to affiliate directly with AAI will engage with child protection and safeguarding processes as determined by legislation and/or the statutory authorities in Northern Ireland. This process will be led by ANI and will apply to all clubs irrespective of the source of accreditation or affiliation.

4. Individual coaches, volunteers and or athletes based in Northern Ireland will engage with child protection and safeguarding processes as determined by legislation and or the statutory authorities in Northern Ireland. This process will be led by ANI and will apply to all clubs irrespective of the source of accreditation or affiliation.
5. Sanctions that are imposed by either Governing Body on clubs or members because of a complaints and disciplinary process, can be considered and recommended to be upheld and implemented by both Governing Bodies.
6. A principle of good standing should be established for clubs or members of either AAI or ANI before any decision by committee is taken to facilitate a change in affiliation or membership to either Governing Body. A club must be in a position of verified good standing with its outgoing Governing Body before its affiliation can accepted by the incoming Governing body.
7. In the case of a dispute/complaint involving an individual and or clubs from Northern Ireland (NI) and the Republic of Ireland (ROI) the relevant authority in both ANI and AAI as appropriate, will determine and agree the process for how the dispute/complaint will be dealt with as determined by legislation and/or the statutory authorities in each jurisdiction.

These goals will be accomplished by AAI and ANI working together to agree terms on how each jurisdiction can work to achieve the best outcome for all clubs and members.

This list of proposed conditions are subject to agreement of changes and additions by both Governing Bodies.

### Reporting

The boards of AAI and ANI will appoint a subcommittee to coordinate this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between AAI and ANI and once this agreement has been ratified and accepted they (sub-committee) will be responsible for the monitoring and evaluating the agreement.

### Funding

This MOU is not a commitment of funds.

### Duration

This MOU is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorised officials of the boards of AAI and ANI. This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorised officials from the AAI and ANI and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the partners by mutual consent. ~~In the absence of agreement by the authorized officials from AAI and ANI this MOU shall end on (end date of partnership).~~

*There will be an annual review of this MOU.*

### Contact Information

Partner name: The Athletic Association of Ireland

Partner representative *Georgina Druman*

Position *President*

Address

Telephone

E-mail

*Georgina Druman* *3.12.2018.*

(Partner signature)

Partner name Athletics Northern Ireland

Partner representative *John Allen*

Position

Address

Telephone

E-mail

*[Handwritten signature]*

Date: 3/12/18.

(Partner signature)