

Diversity and Inclusion in The GAA

Responding to Racism



JNITY

GAA Clubs should be open and welcoming to individuals from all backgrounds, religions and populations



All club members should review the GAA code of behaviour and rules outlining procedures and disciplinary action on racism.

Website Resources

<u>Sport Against Racism Ireland (SARI)</u>

Irish Networks Against Racism (INAR)

DCU Centre of Excellence for Diversity & Inclusion

Irish Traveller Movement (ITM)

<u>Transgender Equality Network Ireland</u> (<u>TENI)</u> <u>www.belongto.org</u> <u>Cara - Friend</u> <u>The Rainbow Project</u>



Any racist incidents should be reported and dealt with in a timely manor



Club members should attend the GAA's Responding to Racism workshop

Reporting Online

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

- <u>https://www.ireport.ie/</u>
- Irish Racist Incident Reporting System

NORTHERN IRELAND

Police Service NI

Steps to Reporting an Incident



In a match referees to record the incident in their report from all witnesses



Report to the club and deal with any incidents at club level first



Report to the Club Children's Officer for

• <u>https://www.psni.police.uk/crime/</u> <u>hate-crime/reporting-a-hate-</u>

crime/



incidents involving individuals under 18

Unresolved issues to be referred to
County Board, then Provincial Council
and National Disciplinary Committee
respectfully

Contact Information

Geraldine McTavish

GAA National Diversity & Inclusion Officer PH: 01 8192363

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Ken McCue

Sport Against Racism Ireland (SARI) Cultural Planner **Email:** info@sari.ie

WHERE WE ALL BELONG





We have gathered some guidance that will hopefully give you the tools and confidence to help eliminate racism. This advice has been gathered from multiple Irish and international sources.

Anti Racism Tips

Be an ally, model inclusion, compassion, and respect for others

Avoid making negative statements about any racial, ethnic, or religious group. Ask how you can be of assistance and if they require support.



Don't spread misinformation

Providing accurate information about people, events, and culture is important. If you are unsure about the authenticity or accuracy of something you are about to share, perhaps try to verify.

Anti Racism Tools

What is Racial Harassment?

Look at **INAR Racism PDF** outlining what

constitutes racial harassment, some examples and why you should act. As well as some practical steps of what you can do.

Support. Record. Report.



Support: Support the victim during and after the attack, ask them if they are okay, make sure they know they are not alone. They will be feeling a range of emotions, fear, anger, embarrassment

Avoid stereotyping people or countries To avoid creating prejudice and mistrust, don't focus on someones nationality, ethnicity, or appearance.

Stand up

Where appropriate, intervene to stop any type of harassment or bullying. Speak up when you hear, see, or read discriminatory comments. Often people do not respond because they do not want to be a target of abuse themselves. However, standing up to racism can be a powerful sign of support. It can also make the perpetrator think twice about their actions.

Additional Support

etc. Ignore the attacker but do not be a bystander.

<u>Record:</u> If you can, record the attack on a phone. It helps to be able to hold people to account. As soon as you can take notes of the time and place, as well as details of the incident in as much details as possible.

<u>Report:</u> Report the attack to the authorities. Call the guard or alert whomever may be around. Do not let it slide.

Respond to racist behaviour

If you see racist behaviour in public, say something if it feels safe to do so. If it does not feel safe to say something, try and support the target of the abuse by sitting next to them and checking if they are ok. Report the incident to someone, e.g. venue security guard and call the guards. Use 999/112 if you think that you or someone else is in danger. Victims and witnesses of racist incidents can also report on iReport.ie, an Irish Online Racist Incident Reporting system. Other ways to report racist incidents;

Mental Health

If you are feeling stressed and would like support, the **GAA Community and Health** website has resources for looking after your mental health and wellbeing. We have also listed some key contact numbers below.

- Samaritans: 116 123
- INAR: 01 889 7110

ONLINE (\bullet)

If you experience or see racism online you can also report to IReport.ie See their website **IREPORT.IE** for furthur details.

WHERE WE ALL BELONG

- Online/Social Media: Most social media platforms can deal with offensive content, so report any racist material you see.
- Websites: You can make a complaint to the Irish Network Against Racism, Human Rights Commission or to the guards.
- At a Match/Training: If you see racism directed towards a player, referee or teammate, support them and encourage them to complain. Sports clubs will have a policy for dealing with bullying.

WHEN RESPONDING, ALWAYS **ASSESS THE SITUATION AND NEVER PUT YOURSELF AT RISK. YOUR ACTIONS DO NOT NEED TO INVOLVE** CONFRONTATION