



# **Bleach Lough Anglers Limited**

# **Safety Statement**

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## **Communicating the contents of the Safety Statement**

An AGM is held on an annual basis. The overall content of the Safety Statement will be dealt with as part of this meeting. Furthermore this safety statement shall be present during all Board meetings and it is the responsibility of all members to review and update contents on an ongoing basis.

A copy of the safety statement shall be made available to each new Member, and the member must acknowledge this with his / her signature on the Application form.

A copy of the safety statement shall be made available during all competitions organized by the Company.

## **Annual Review of Safety Statement**

Prior to the start of each season the Board should review the contents of its safety statement and ensure that the contents are still relevant to the activities of the company.

If the members are participating in additional activities that may have safety implications the Board should draw up a policy to state how the company is going to minimize the risk associated with those activities.

For example if the Company decided to branch out into sea fishing then the additional activity should be dealt with.

The names of those designated to look after first aid kits, etc should be changed when necessary. A new copy of the Safety Statement should be produced and dated with the current year clearly printed on the cover. A copy of the revised Safety Statement must be given to all Directors and Officers.



# Bleach Lough Anglers Limited      Safety Statement

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**1. Introduction** This safety statement is designed to set out the control measures that Bleach Lough Anglers Limited (hereafter referred to as the Company) has in place, to reduce the risk associated with its activities to the minimum that is reasonably practicable.

The document sets out the role of the company's Board of Directors (Board) with respect to safety. It also sets out the standards that the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland requires our company to adhere to.

The Board has overall responsibility for ensuring safety standards are high and that members are aware of these standards.

The Board should bring this document to the attention of all members and explain to them the basic safety rules that all members must adhere to when participating in angling activities on Bleach Lough.

## 1.1 Role of the Safety Officer & Assistant Safety Officers of the Club

The Company Safety Officer & Assistant Safety Officers role with respect to safety involves the following;

- ensuring that each member is familiar with the Safety Statement,
- ensure that appropriate safety / warning signs are in place
- ensuring that Company equipment meets recommended safety standards, as per risk assessment
- ensuring that members boats meet recommended safety standards
- ensure that relevant training is provided where necessary

## 1.2 Role of the member

- The Company endeavours to offer members a safe environment in which to participate in angling activities. The Board will, to the best of its abilities, bring to the attention of members the risks associated with fishing activities.

**However, members are expected to make themselves aware of hazards, and are responsible for their own health and safety.**

- They must not jeopardize the health and safety of other members through their own actions.
- Members are expected to follow instructions given by the Board, Officers or competition stewards.
- Members should attend official company meetings in order to receive and discuss updates on health & safety aspects.
- They should raise any safety concerns that they have with the Board, Officers or competition steward a.s.a.p.
- Members should inform the Board, Officers or competition steward of any relevant medical conditions that might impinge on their ability to participate or that might affect emergency first aid treatment.
- Members are responsible for obtaining as much information as possible about any planned activity, so as to be able to make an informed decision as to whether it is a suitable activity for them.

## 2. Reporting of accidents

Accidents that occur as a result of the company's activities or while a member is participating in the company's activities must be notified as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours afterwards, must be investigated, must be recorded on the company's accident report form (**Appendix A:**) and a copy sent to the Board / Company Insurers within 5 days of the accident occurring.

Members are insured against personal injury while participating in company (angling) activities on Bleach Lough. **Non members are not insured.**

The Board will deal with claims that may arise. Company Officers must ensure members are signed up using the official membership application form and that new applicants are also recorded in the membership list maintained by the Company Secretary.

Accidents are defined as incidents where a person is injured to such an extent that they require first aid or other medical treatment (doctor, nurse, hospital visit).

### 2.1 Serious accidents and fatalities

Serious accidents or fatalities must be reported to the Safety Officer as well as Company Secretary as soon as possible. If these officers are not available the Chairman or Vice-Chairman must be notified

#### Contact details

Chairman: Declan Lynch 087-9374891	Safety Officer : Aidan Fitzpatrick 086-7379717
Secretary: Micheal McNamara 085-7164764/061-229206	Vice-Chairman: David Buston 087-9595610

### 2.2 Emergency contact details

Emergency (Ambulance, Fire, Garda) 999	Regional Hospital, Limerick	061-301111
Garda Station, Pallaskenry 061-393102	Askeaton Medical Centre	061-392267
Garda Station, Askeaton 061-601630	Shannon Doc:	1850-212999

## 3. First aid

The first aid requirements for the Company shall be classified and outlined in 3 different categories:

### Day to Day fishing activities by members (no officers present on the lake):

Members are expected to provide adequate first aid equipment for themselves, for angling activities outside officially organized events. Reminder: Members are not insured, at Bleach Lough, in any other activities outside angling activities.

### Competitions organized by the Company:

For activities where there is a risk of minor injury an officer must be designated to maintain a suitable first aid kit present for the duration of the competition. For activities where there is a higher risk of injury the Company should endeavour to have a designated trained first aider available.

### **Away trips organized by the Company:**

It is recommended that a first aid kit should be brought on trips away e.g. sea fishing trips. However it shall be the full responsibility of the actual event organizer e.g. owners of sea angling centres etc. to provide adequate first aid equipment.

The designated first aiders and the officer in charge of the first aid kit will be announced at competitions.

### **4. Purchase of services**

Where the company uses the facilities of a service provider, or equipment belonging to a service provider an officer of the company must ensure that the service provider has public liability insurance. A copy of the certificate of insurance should be obtained and given to the company Secretary. **(Appendix B)**

Ensure that the insurance policy wording does not exclude any of the activities that the Company will be participating in. If the service provider cannot provide a certificate then the company should use an alternative service provider.

### **5. Safety checks on equipment owned by the Company.**

Equipment purchased by officers is the property of the company and must be returned to the company should the officer cease his /her role.

To ensure the safety of members the company requires the safety officers to carry out intermittent visual checks on all equipment whose use could have implications for health and safety, i.e. if the equipment was faulty or in poor condition it may adversely affect the health and safety of users.

Checks must also be carried out at the start of the fishing season before the equipment is used and at 2 monthly intervals throughout the season. These checks must be formally documented. Company owned Life jackets must be certified by an external safety company on an annual basis.

A copy of the internal visual inspection certificate **(Appendix C)** and certificates of inspections by external companies must be sent to the Company Secretary.

#### **5.1 Safety checks on Members Boats.**

Boats will be inspected before launch, to ensure a) their sea-worthiness, and b) that no invasive species are introduced to the Lough. Boats must be secured with a locked chain, when not in use. Boats must be secured correctly to assigned, designated spot, after use. Boats will be visually inspected on an ongoing basis. While it is the member's responsibility to ensure sea-worthiness, the Safety Officer has the power to restrict use.

### **6. Safety Equipment**

The use of life jackets is compulsory at all times while boat fishing on Bleach Lough, and life jackets worn must conform to the CE standard.

It is the responsibility of the individual boat owner/hirer to ensure that all passengers are using appropriate safety equipment.

Juveniles and Children must be accompanied and supervised by an adult while boat fishing on Bleach Lough.

It is recommended that Life Jackets are also used while shore or platform fishing on Bleach Lough (especially for Juveniles and Children).

It is the responsibility of the Board that the Company rules contain a section with regard to safety rules and guidelines.

Furthermore it shall be responsibility of the club to ensure that proper health and safety signage is displayed.

It is recommended that all persons fishing should protect their eyes by wearing spectacles or wrap-around sunglasses.

It is recommended that all persons fishing should protect their ears by wearing suitable headgear, especially when fishing on windy days.

It is recommended that all persons fishing should wear appropriate, weather related, clothing.

### **7. Loaning of equipment**

Company equipment must not be loaned to third parties who are not members. A member or officer must not borrow equipment for use by third parties even if the member is present or in the group using the equipment.

### **8. Bullying**

The Company does not tolerate bullying. Bullying is defined as repeated aggression, (verbal, psychological or physical), conducted by an individual or group against another person or persons. Isolated incidents of aggressive behaviour, while to be condemned, should not be described as bullying. Only aggressive behaviour that is systematic and ongoing should be regarded as bullying. Sanctions will be taken against those found to be in breach of the policy. Members should contact any of the Officers for assistance on this issue.

### **9. Non Discrimination**

The Company operates a strict non-discrimination policy. No discrimination will be accepted on any grounds, and especially on grounds of Age, Gender, Race, Politics, Religious Belief, Disability, Sexual orientation, Membership of any specific Community.

**Policy Statement**

It is the policy of Bleach Lough Anglers Limited to safeguard children, young people, and vulnerable adults taking part in angling related activities, promoted by the Company, from physical, sexual or emotional harm. The club will take all reasonable steps to ensure that, through appropriate procedures and training, children participating in the club's activities do so in a safe environment.

We recognise that the safety and welfare of the child is paramount and that all children, whatever their age, gender, ethnic origin, colour, culture, religious belief, disability, sexual identity, or social status, have a right to protection from abuse.

While we recognise that safeguarding children is the responsibility of everyone, not just those who work with children **Bleach Lough Anglers Limited actively seeks**

**To:** Create a safe and welcoming environment, both on and off the water, where children can have fun and develop their skills and confidence.

**To:** Ensure that organized training and events are run to the highest possible safety standards.

**To:** Be prepared to review its ways of working to incorporate best practice.

**We will always:**

- Treat all children with respect and celebrate their achievements.
- Respond swiftly and appropriately to all complaints and concerns about poor practice or suspected or actual child abuse.

This policy relates to all Officers, contractors and Volunteers who come in contact with children or vulnerable adults in the course of their club duties. It will be kept under periodic review.

All relevant concerns, allegations, complaints should be notified as soon as possible to any Officer of the Club, for immediate investigation and action by a Child Protection Officers.

All relevant concerns, allegations, complaints and their outcome should be notified to the Bleach Lough Anglers Limited Secretary, who is nominated pro-tem "The Child Protection Officers", and whose contact details are as shown below, and will be shown on Bleach Lough Anglers Limited notice boards, our web-site, and on all correspondence .

- **The Child Protection Officers:**

Michael McMahan Ballinacarriga, Kildimo, Co.Limerick 086-2348021

Declan Lynch Kilgarvan, Ballylongford, Co.Kerry. 087-9374891

## Safety Tips.

### Day to Day fishing activities by members

#### DO

- Do look out for live electric fences
- Do look out for bulls in the fields surrounding Lough
- Do be aware of undermined / eroded banks
- Do protect your eyes by wearing spectacles or wrap-around sunglasses
- Do protect your ears by wearing suitable headgear, especially when fishing on windy days
- Do wear a life jacket or a well designed buoyancy waistcoat. It should be worn over all other clothing items
- Do look out for others to avoid hitting them with your back cast
- Do wear warm weatherproof clothing, when appropriate
- Do check the weather forecast
- Do be prepared to help others, *without risking your own safety*
- Do familiarize yourself with resuscitation techniques

#### DO NOT

- Do not fish alone if you are elderly or in poor health. Inform people where you intend to fish.
- Do not wade in Lough. Sudden steep shelves may not be visible. It is not worth the risk.
- Do not take risk by going out of your depth while following a large fish you have hooked. It is better to lose a fish than your life
- Do not ever step on ice. It may slope towards deep water. It may not be uniformly thick. The water level may have dropped so that ice is not being supported
- Do not fish during thunderstorm. Keep low and lay your rod horizontally on the ground or across the boat
  
- *Reminder:* No petrol/diesel engines allowed on Bleach Lough.

### Safety in Boating

#### DO

- Do pay attention to legal requirements applying to safety in the operation of angling boats
- Do use a suitable electric motor which is working efficiently. It should be secured to the boat by a safety strap. Spares, together with the tools to fit them, should be carried
- Do use a safe well-designed boat. As a general rule, the bigger and more stable the better
- Do try to keep the boat level. Do not, as a general rule stand up in the boat, and never in rough conditions. Only one person at a time should change seats. Always have a hand on the boat and never stand on the seats. Do not, suddenly, change position or lean over the side of the boat, particularly to free a line which has tangled round the propeller. Come ashore to remove the obstacle
- Do carry some spare rope on board
- Do start your motor in sufficient time when drifting towards a rocky shore.

- Do pay attention to weather forecasts. If gale force winds are predicted, do not go out in a boat. Generally it is safer to head upwind if you suspect that the wind will increase in strength later
- Do always cast “outside” the boat. It is a danger to boatmen and fellow anglers, to take the cast and leader across the boat. Learn to cast over your “other” shoulder.
- Do stay with the boat if you fall overboard. Remember, the boat can save you if you can hold onto it.

#### **DO NOT**

- Do not as a rule try to pull an angler who has fallen overboard back onto the boat. It is generally better to tie the person to the boat and head for shore or shallow water as quickly as practicable. In doing so, be aware of the dangers of propellers.

### **Safety around Children**

#### **DO**

- Do be aware of our Child Protection Policy
- Do have a personal policy of safety around young anglers.
- Do be aware of the Irish Sports Council’s position and advice in this area
- Do be particularly careful around children involved in angling activities
- Do ensure that supervisors are qualified and suitable and have some training in this area
- Do involve parents and/guardians and obtain their support and consent.
- Be vigilant at all times and ready to take emergency action.

#### **DO NOT**

- Do not take for granted the reaction of children to any situation.

**Appendix A: Bleach Lough Anglers Ltd.**

**Accident Report Form**

*(To be filled by an officer of the company and the person suffering the injury, copy to be sent to the Secretary as soon as possible)*

Name of injured person:  Membership details	Contact address  Phone no	Home address (if different)
Location of accident on Bleach Lough (state where)	State the nature of the injury	Date of accident
What first aid was provided?  By whom	Did the patient attend hospital? Yes/No	State name and address of hospital
Date patient attended if not day of accident	What treatment was received?	
How did accident occur? (to be completed by patient, if possible)		

Injured Party Name	Injured party statement (if possible)
Witness 1 Name Address  Phone	Witness 1 statement (if possible)
Witness 2 Name Address  Phone	Witness 2 statement (if possible)

Signature of injured person:

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**Club Use only**

Investigated by: Name  Signature  Date:	Statement
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**Insurance company notified: Yes/No**

**Date:**

**Signed:**

**Appendix B: Fire Safety Declaration of compliance**

I declare on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ that the venue is in compliance with Fire Safety in Places of Assembly (Ease of Escape) Regulations, 1985 and with the Code of Practice for the Management of Fire Safety in Places of Assembly. Numbers entering the premises will be controlled by the venue management.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manager or authorized person  
Date \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

## Appendix C: Equipment Check Form

(To be completed for Company equipment that may pose a health and safety risk if in poor condition, e.g. boats, trailers, protective equipment, harnesses etc)

**Officers carrying out check:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date check carried out:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>

**Does equipment  
meet safety  
standards**

**Equipment**                      **YES**    **NO**                      **Outline Corrective Action to be undertaken**

<b>Boat 1</b>			
<b>Boat 2</b>			
<b>Boat 3</b>			
<b>Boat 4</b>			
<b>Boat 5</b>			
<b>Boat 6</b>			
<b>Boat 7</b>			
<b>Boat 8</b>			
<b>Marina</b>			
<b>Car-Park</b>			

<b>Club Cabins</b>			
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Disabled Angler Platform (including walkway and Hoist)		
Fishing Platform 1		
Fishing Platform 2		
Fishing Platform 3		
Fishing Platform 4		

Life Buoy Qty=		
Oars Qty=		
First Aid Kits		
Life Jackets Qty=		
Members Boats (including Mooring Chains)		

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date corrective actions completed \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

***If items are unsafe or pose a risk to health and safety please take them out of circulation and clearly mark on them that they are not to be used.***

A copy of this checklist **must** be sent to the Company Secretary.

**Appendix D: Bleach Lough Anglers Ltd.  
Child Protection Complaint or Concern Form**

*(To be filled by an officer of the company on receipt of complaint or concern, copy to be sent to the Secretary as soon as possible)*

Name of Complainant /Concerned Party:

\*\* (Not compulsory. However, if signed, a written response will issue.)

Contact address

Phone no

Date of incident?

Nature of incident?

Witness 1 (if possible)

Name

Address

Phone

Statement

Witness 2 ( if possible) Name Address  Phone	Statement
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\*\*Signature of Complainant /Concerned Party .....

**Club Use only**

Investigated by:  Name  Signature  Date:	Statement
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**Board Decision on Action required:-**