

**GAA’s Smoke & Vape Free Policy Statement**

Carryduff GAC is committed to reducing the use of tobacco smoking due to its proven harmful health effects by adopting the GAA’S Smoke Free Policy (including Electronic Cigarettes/Vaping).

**Aim:** To protect the health of all individuals involved with the club as well as visitors to the grounds by keeping them safe from all smoke related harm.

**Rationale:** Carryduff GAC recognises that second-hand smoke is severely harmful to health, in particular to the health of children. There is no safe level of exposure to second hand smoke. The policy will help change social norms around tobacco use, encourage people to consider quitting and reduce the initiation of smoking tobacco or e cigarettes/vaping amongst young people.

Smoking tobacco is one of the world’s biggest public health threats killing more than 7 million people globally a year. Around 890,000 of these deaths are due to exposure to second-hand smoke (WHO, 2019). In the Republic of Ireland, there are almost 5,500 smoking-related deaths each year and one in every two long- term smokers will die from a tobacco related disease (HSE, 2019). In Northern Ireland smoking has been identified as the single greatest cause of preventable illness and premature death with 2014 data revealing approximately 16% or 1 in 6 of all deaths were attributable to smoking (Public Health Agency, 2015).

Carryduff GAC has therefore imposed a Smoke and Vape free policy, which includes the use of e-cigarettes. This policy applies to the entire GAA club grounds.

There are NO designated smoking areas.

This policy applies to all members, officials, coaches, players, parents, contractors, visitors and volunteers. We believe that we are setting a positive example for the community with genuine concern for everyone’s health.

**Timing:** This policy will commence on 01/11/24

**Enforcement and non- compliance:**

Carryduff GAC will use no smoking signs on club grounds to promote the policy. Executive Committee members will make every effort to enforce this policy.

‘Vaping’ includes the use of electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic pipes or other such electronic delivery systems intended to simulate smoking, whether they deliver a nicotine dose or not.

**Policy Review:** This policy will be reviewed six months after its introduction and then on an annual basis thereafter by an Executive Committee representative. This will ensure that the policies adherence is sustained, effective and up to date.

**Carryduff GAC is committed to following the GAA’S Smoke & Vape Free Policy**

Club Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Healthy Club Officer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_01/11/24\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_