**Key Points Relating to the National Vetting Act**

**The National Vetting Bureau (Children & Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 - 2016 commenced on 29th April 2016 and from that date a statutory obligation was placed upon the LGFA to ensure that all persons who on our behalf undertook relevant work with children has been vetted prior to taking up that role.**

**The term ‘relevant work’ in the LGFA includes any role of responsibility such as coaching, managing or training underage teams or indeed adult teams that contain any player under 18 yrs. of age. It also applies to organising underage activities or refereeing underage games.**

* It is now a criminal offence, for a person acting on behalf of the LGFA or for the LGFA as an Association to permit any person to commenceworking with children on behalf of the Association without that person first obtaining a vetting disclosure from the National Vetting Bureau in respect of the role for which they have been recruited.
* From 29 April 2016 the new LGFA Vetting Form and ID Verification Form are available for download and both forms are required to be submitted in hardcopy. Applicants must in the first instance complete the ID Verification Form. This form compels an applicant to provide proof of their identity to their Club Children’s Officer, who must verify that they have received the ID verification as required.
* Statutory vetting will, in addition to a check for criminal records, include a check for any relevant soft information. Soft information officially referred to as ‘specified information’ in the Vetting Act, is information other than criminal convictions held by An Garda Síochána that may lead to a bona-fide belief that a person poses a threat to children or vulnerable persons.
* If a person has been vetted by the GAA, LGFA or Camogie prior to 29 April 2016 it will not be necessary for them to be re-vetted under the new Act, until such time as the LGFA orders their re-vetting. After the commencement of Act any person subsequently vetted by the LGFA shall be re-vetted within a five year period.
* Any person who was working with children in the LGFA prior to the commencement of the Act and was not previously vetted for that role may continue in that capacity but must apply as a matter of priority to be vetted by the LGFA under what is termed ‘retrospective vetting’. This term and these conditions are allowed for in the Act. Clubs should now carry out an audit of coaches/mentors to ensure all are currently vetted or have applied for vetting.
* LGFA vetting services are available to any person over 16 yrs. of age fulfilling a role of responsibility with children or vulnerable adults. Consent from a Parental/Guardian shall be required for applicants between 16 and 18 yrs. of age.

**WARNING: In accordance with the Act the LGFA shall not permit any person to undertake relevant work or activities with children on our behalf unless we receive a vetting disclosure from the National Vetting Bureau in respect of that person. A person who contravenes this section of the Act shall be guilty of an offence.**