



NATIONAL INTEGRITY FRAMEWORK

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE POLICY

Overview

The Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is designed to protect children and young people in sport by putting in place rules and processes to ensure sporting environments are inclusive, positive and safe for everyone at all times.

The Policy includes:

- clear definitions of Prohibited Conduct
- a list of mandatory Children and Young People Safe Practices
- recruitment and screening requirements
- a procedure outlining how to respond to child abuse allegations and report possible Prohibited Conduct
- a Child/Young Person Safe Commitment Statement

Who does this Policy apply to?

The Policy applies to everyone involved in sport including participants, employees, coaches, officials, contractors and support personnel, at all levels, from the national level through to club sport.



Prohibited Conduct

The following actions and behaviours are breaches of the Policy:

- ❌ **Child Abuse** including physical, emotional, psychological and sexual abuse, as well as neglect and exposure to family violence.
- ❌ **Harmful behaviours towards a child/young person** including harmful training methods, excessive emphasis on appearance or weight, forcing a child/young person to train while ill or injured, threatening or humiliating a child/young person, physical punishment or any degrading, cruel, frightening or humiliating disciplinary actions, sexual or adult comments to or in the presence of a child/young person, or taking inappropriate photos or inappropriately touching a child/young person.
- ❌ **Any act affecting a child/young person that would be considered a breach of the Member Protection policy** including bullying, harassment, discrimination, victimisation and vilification.
- ❌ **Asking a child/young person to keep any communication secret.**
- ❌ **Supplying alcohol or drugs (including tobacco) to a child/young person.**
- ❌ **Failing to comply with recruitment and screening requirements.**
- ❌ **Failing to report a breach of Prohibited Conduct.**
- ❌ **Being found guilty of Child Abuse or Grooming** under state, territory or Commonwealth law.



- ❌ **Supplying medicines to a child/young person** unless permitted by law or to provide lifesaving treatment
 - without the consent of the child/young person and their parent/carer; or
 - without a valid prescription for that child/young person; or
 - at the incorrect dosage.

- ❌ **Breaching any of the child/young person safe practices** that cover actions such as photographing/filming children/young people, travel arrangements, overnight stays, change room arrangements, electronic and online communications, discipline and physical contact, amongst others.

The full definitions of Prohibited Conduct and Child/Young Person Safe Practices are available in the Policy.

What is the reporting process?

Step 1: If a person is in immediate risk or danger, call Police on 000.

Step 2: If you suspect, on reasonable grounds that a child/young person has been, or is at risk of being harmed, you must report it to the police and/or the relevant state/territory child protection agency.

Step 3: Report all relevant information to the appropriate person within your club/sport.

Step 4: Inform Sport Integrity Australia through a Complaint or Report by filling in the online form at [Making An Integrity Complaint or Report](#).

What happens if someone commits a breach of this Policy?

Any alleged Prohibited Conduct that is reported will be dealt with under the Complaints Disputes and Discipline Policy. This could result in a sanction ranging from a warning or mandatory education to a ban from sport. Criminal conduct will be managed outside of this process by law enforcement.

Disclaimer

This fact sheet does not replace the National Integrity Framework Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy. The Policy applies and overrules this fact sheet in any instances.

