



Safeguarding in Sport Continuous Improvement Program

Fact Sheet

The Safeguarding in Sport Continuous Improvement Program (SISCIP) is designed to help sporting organisations build their capability to provide safe environments for children, young people, and all members to participate in sport. This includes protecting them from abuse, providing safe and inclusive experiences and highlighting that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone involved in sport.

The SISCIP is underpinned by the National Integrity Framework (NIF) and the [National Principles for Child Safe Organisations](#) (National Principles). By working through this program, it can assist National Sporting Organisations (NSOs) and National Sporting Organisations for People with a Disability (NSODs) to meet their state and territory child safeguarding compliance requirements.

1. Purpose of Program

The SISCIP aims to embed a culture of child safety and member protection in sport by:

- creating safe sporting environments so that every child, young person, and member can feel and be safe when participating in sport.
- advocating a nationally consistent approach to safeguarding in sport.
- promoting best practice child safeguarding to align with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.
- assisting sporting organisations to meet legislative and regulatory requirements, such as state/territory-based Child Safe Standards.
- providing a mechanism for sport to assess their maturity in child safeguarding and member protection practices and processes.
- working collaboratively with sports to develop a fit for purpose tailored Safeguarding Risk Action Plan that helps to meet their identified risks and needs.
- sports identifying high risk areas and implementing strategies and actions to minimise and manage these areas with support and guidance of Sport Integrity Australia.
- collaborating with and guiding sports to continuously improve and progress its child safeguarding and member protection practices.

2. Outcomes

The outcomes of the SISCIP are to:

- build the capability of sporting organisations to keep children and members safe.
- lead a cultural shift which prioritises the safety of children, young people, and members.
- enhance knowledge and understanding to respond to child abuse risk.
- bolster community confidence that sports are striving to provide safe environments for children and young people.

- enable sports to demonstrate their commitment and leadership in safeguarding to all members at all levels of sport.

As we know sports are not the same, they are different in size, structure, and resourcing and as such they will not be at the same place in their safeguarding journey. This program acknowledges these differences, and we will work with each sport on an ongoing basis to address their safeguarding needs and obligations.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

The Program is designed to work collaboratively with each sport so that there is genuine buy in and commitment to enhancing and embedding safeguarding as a priority. Participation in the program is voluntary and so by signing up to the SISCIP the sport is demonstrating their intention to improve their safeguarding policies, processes, and practices.

Who	Actions
National Sporting Organisation/National Sporting Organisation for people with Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign up to the Program. • Complete the Game Plan Safeguarding Assessment. • Facilitate and attend safeguarding assessment face-to-face meeting. • Ensure key personnel attend the meeting. • Co-develop and implement Safeguarding Risk Action Plan/s. • Attend and contribute to agreed ongoing meetings with Safeguarding Team Members. • Ongoing review and assessment of safeguarding strengths, gaps and identified needs. • Work collaboratively with Safeguarding Team Members. • Review and provide feedback on the Program as required.
Sport Integrity Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and work collaboratively with NSOs/NSODs to implement the SISCIP. • Review and assess Game Plan Safeguarding Assessment. • Schedule face-to-face meeting with the sport to discuss assessment and review safeguarding maturity. • Compile and provide a Safeguarding Assessment Report that include recommendations in priority order based on risks and needs of the sports. • Co-design Safeguarding Risk Action Plan with the sport. • Provide ongoing support through leadership, guidance, education, and access to supporting resources and tools.

4. Structure and Implementation

The SISCIP is voluntary and requires the sport to sign-up to the program. Once the sport has signed up to the program, they will be asked complete an online Safeguarding Assessment that is based on the 10 National Principles. This questionnaire will be accessible on the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) digital platform, Game Plan.

The information from the assessment will be utilised by the Safeguarding Team to measure where the sport is on their safeguarding journey, and where they can prioritise their next steps to enhance and embed safeguarding in their sport. This is a collaborative approach, with the Safeguarding Team working with each sport to identify their areas of strength and where improvements may be made.

Outlined below is a snapshot of the implementation process of the SISCIP. It depicts a continuous process as the sports will complete the online Safeguarding Assessment on an annual basis, which the Safeguarding Team will review, assess, and provide support, to continually improve the sport's safeguarding maturity.



5. Next Steps

Contact the Safeguarding Team to find out more about the Safeguarding in Sport Continuous Improvement Program by emailing: safeguarding@sportintegrity.gov.au.