



Participant Protection

Sport should be safe, positive and enjoyable for all participants by encouraging respectful and inclusive behaviours.

Protecting participants in sport means prioritising:

- **Respect** – every individual is treated with dignity and care
- **Belonging** – people feel included, valued and connected
- **Wellbeing** – physical, emotional and cultural safety is actively protected and promoted
- **Enjoyment** – sport is a positive and fun experience
- **Growth** – people are supported to learn, develop and thrive.

Everyone in sport – including athletes, coaches, officials, administrators and volunteers – should also know what's expected of them and the behaviours that are banned (Prohibited Conduct). These are outlined in full detail in your sport's **Participant Protection Policy**.

Banned behaviours – a summary

- **Abusive behaviour:** this includes physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and misusing power to control others.
- **Abusive behaviour on the basis of disability:** degrading, humiliating or exploiting someone because of their disability e.g. excluding them.
- **Bullying:** using words or actions repeatedly and intentionally to cause someone distress.
- **Harassment:** offensive, belittling or threatening behaviour that is likely to cause harm.
- **Sexual misconduct:** this can include unwelcome touching, suggestive comments or jokes, insults based on sex or gender identity, unwanted approaches and intrusive questions about someone's private life.
- **Discrimination:** treating someone differently based on things such as age, disability, race, sex or gender identity, religion, family or relationships status.
- **Victimisation:** excluding or disadvantaging someone because they've made, or supported, a complaint.
- **Vilification:** actively behaving in a way that influences others to direct hate, ridicule or violence towards people with protected characteristics.



Reporting and support information

Report allegations of these banned behaviours to your sport.

Report to
your sport



Matters relating specifically to child safeguarding, discrimination, or abusive behaviour on the basis of disability can be [reported to Sport Integrity Australia](#).

Report
to SIA



Check your sport's national website for the full *Participant Protection Policy*.

Learn
more



Find a Policy overview at sportintegrity.gov.au.