



NATIONAL INTEGRITY FRAMEWORK CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Overview

The Child Safeguarding Policy is designed to protect children in sport by putting in place rules and processes to ensure sporting environments are inclusive, positive and safe for all children, all the time.

The Policy includes:

- clear definitions of Prohibited Conduct
- a list of mandatory child-safe practices
- recruitment and screening requirements
- a procedure outlining how to respond to child abuse allegations and report possible Prohibited Conduct
- a child safe commitment.

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.
- ❌ **Grooming.**
- ❌ **Misconduct with a child** including age inappropriate behaviour, or behaviour which places the child at risk of harm.
- ❌ **Asking a child to keep any communication secret.**
- ❌ **Supplying alcohol or drugs (including tobacco) to a child.**
- ❌ **Supplying medicines**, except where:
 - permitted by law or with the consent of the parent, guardian or carer of the child; and
 - under a valid prescription for that child; and
 - at the prescribed dosage
- ❌ **Failing to comply with recruitment and screening requirements.**
- ❌ **Failing to report a breach of Prohibited Conduct.**
- ❌ **Breaching any of the child safe practices** that cover actions such as photographing/filming children, 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 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 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 www.sportintegrity.gov.au/making-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 Child Safeguarding Policy. The Policy applies and overrules this fact sheet in any instances.

