

Ermington United Sport & Recreation Club

Child Safe Policy



1. Introduction

Ermington United Sport & Recreation Club is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children involved in our activities. We uphold a zero-tolerance policy for child abuse and believe that safeguarding children is a shared responsibility among all members, volunteers, employees, coaches, and parents.

2. Purpose

The objectives of this policy are to:

- Foster a club culture of child safety.
- Ensure all individuals understand their responsibility in preventing, identifying, and reporting child abuse.
- Provide a clear reporting process for suspected abuse or misconduct.
- Promote inclusivity, ensuring protection for children from diverse backgrounds and abilities.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all club members, including:

- Players (under 18 years old)
- Coaches, assistants, and team managers
- Committee members, volunteers, and employees
- Parents, guardians, and other individuals involved in club activities

Violations of this policy may be investigated and addressed by the club or relevant governing bodies.

4. Guiding Principles

- The safety and wellbeing of children is our top priority.
- Child protection is a shared responsibility among all stakeholders.
- All children have the right to feel safe and be free from harm.



- We value the opinions of children and will continue to include their perspectives in our policies.
- We respect the diversity of all participants in club activities, including those from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, culturally diverse backgrounds, and those with disabilities.

5. Child Protection Officers

The club will designate a trained Child Protection Officers (CPOs) for all sports to serve as points of contact for any concerns related to child safety. This role will:

- Provide guidance on child safety matters.
- Assist in reporting allegations of child abuse.
- Maintain confidential records of reports and investigations.

6. Recognising & Reporting Child Abuse

Child abuse includes, but is not limited to physical violence, emotional harm, neglect, sexual offenses, and grooming. If any club member, volunteer, or participant suspects abuse, they must:

- Report it immediately to the designated Child Protection Officer or authorities.
- Ensure confidentiality and sensitivity when handling allegations.
- Support investigations while prioritising the safety of the affected child.

7. Prevention Measures

The club will actively work to prevent child abuse through:

- Risk management procedures to identify vulnerabilities.
- Comprehensive child safety training for committee members, volunteers, and coaches.
- Ensuring Working with Children Checks (WWCC) for all individuals involved in child-related activities.
- Clear communication with parents and players about child protection policies.
- Setting appropriate guidelines for communication between adults and minors, including social media interactions.

8. Responding to Allegations

If an allegation of abuse is made:

- The accused individual may be temporarily stood down while an investigation is conducted.



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- Reports will be forwarded to the appropriate authorities for further action.
- Investigations will be conducted with confidentiality and respect for all involved.

9. Record Keeping

All reports of child safety concerns will be documented and securely stored to ensure accountability and transparency.

10. Privacy & Confidentiality

The club will handle child protection matters with the utmost confidentiality, respecting the rights of children while ensuring compliance with legal obligations.

11. Code of Conduct

All club members must adhere to our Child Safety Code of Conduct, which includes:

- Respectful and appropriate interactions with children.
- Prohibitions on inappropriate physical contact, communication, and relationships with minors.
- Clear rules around transport, supervision, or any activities involving children.