

Is your club
child safe?





Acknowledgement of Country

Content Warning



Call 1300 22 4636



Call 13 11 14 >
24/7 Crisis Support



1800 55 1800

Mental Health Line
1800 011 511 

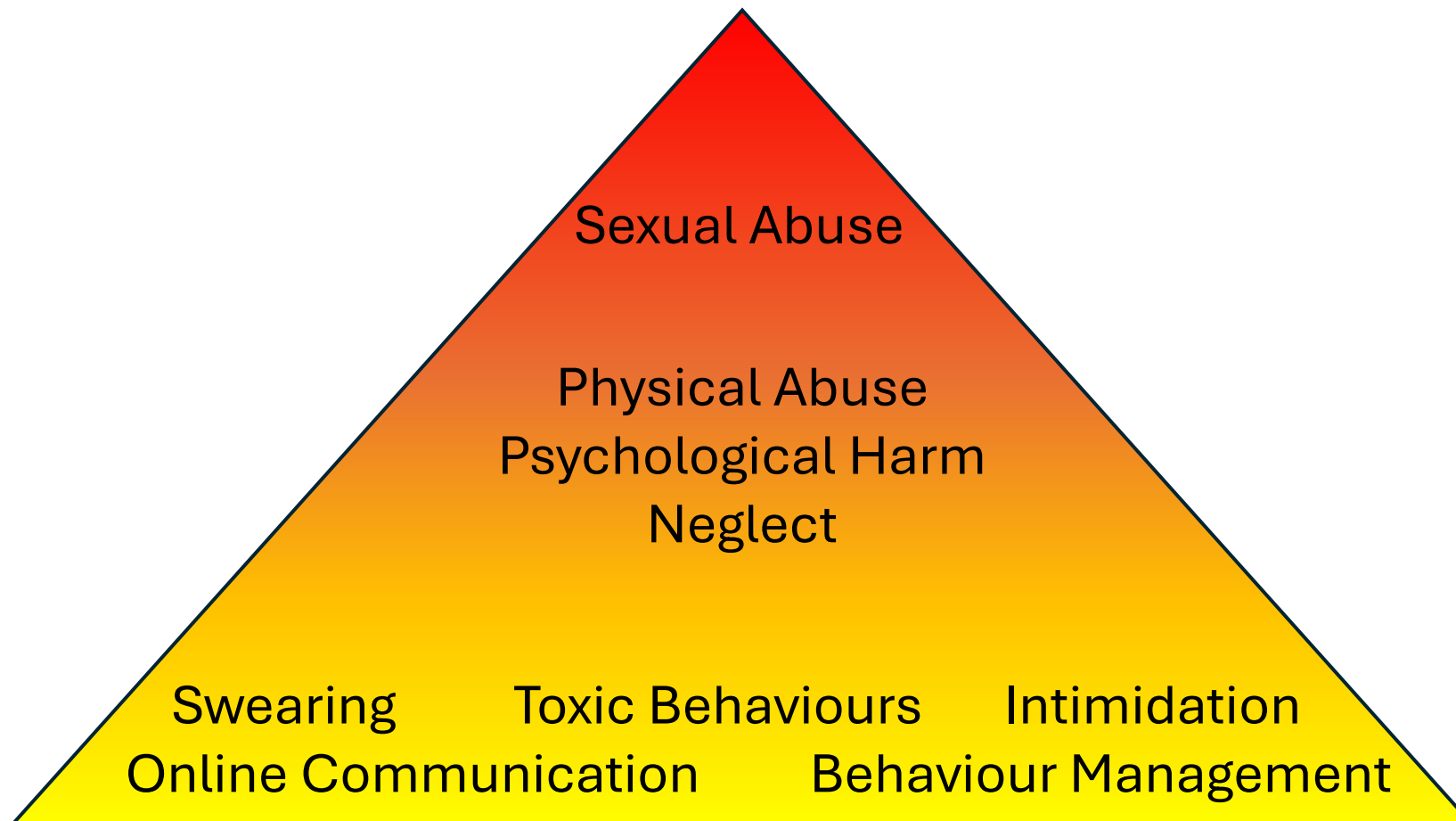


Agenda

- What is Safeguarding?
- Working With Children Check
- How can we keep our clubs safe?
- Resources that can help you.

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding focuses on preventing child abuse in sport.



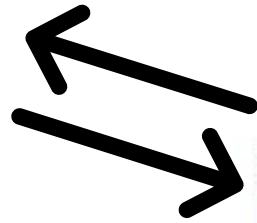
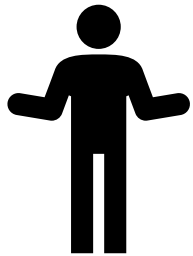
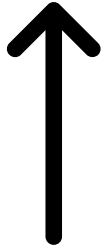


The Working With Children Check

DETERMINE	Whether you need anyone to have the check
REGISTER	Your club as an 'employer' on the OCG's website
COLLECT	WWCC numbers of child-related workers/volunteers
VERIFY	Each WWCC/APP using the employer portal
RECORD	Keep records of who you have verified

The Working With Children Check

Verification is the key



Office of the
Children's Guardian





The Working With Children Check

- Paid employees need to pay for their WWCC, volunteers are free.
- There are two requirements stated in the legislation:
 - **Verification** of child-related workers
 - **Maintain records** of who you have verified
- The WWCC should be your top priority as it is strictly enforced.

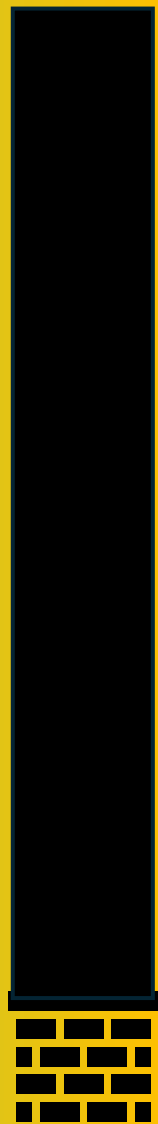
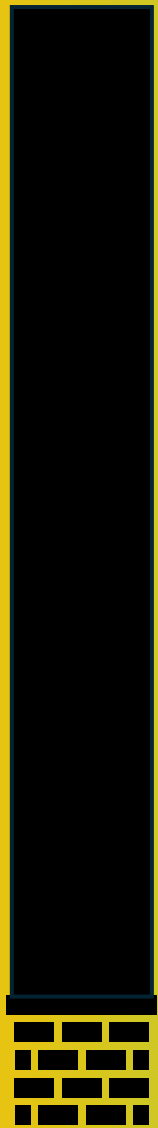
Scenario 1

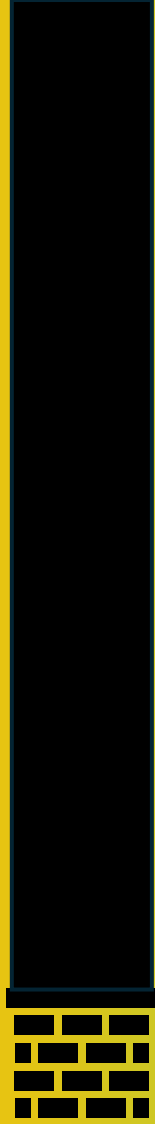
- Trent is a Strength and Conditioning coach. He identifies a young striker as a high potential athlete and initiates extra training sessions
- Trent works alone with the child so that there are no distractions. He can tailor workouts to the child's needs
- Trent can't access the club outside of regular hours, and doesn't want to create more work for the committee, so he trains the child at his home. You appreciate that he is giving up a lot of his own time to help a talented child succeed.

Scenario 2

- Trent is a Strength and Conditioning coach. He tells the parents that their child would benefit from targeted training. He is keen to work with the child outside of regular hours so that he can be alone with the child. He chooses times and there will be no supervision or interruptions with the child.
- As these sessions are not officially approved by the club, Trent uses his social media to contact the child.
- Trent is not only grooming the child; he is grooming the parents and manipulating the club.

**To the outside observer,
these two scenarios are
indistinguishable**





Safeguarding at the National level

Football Australia has developed Safeguarding Policies that support clubs.

Football Australia's Child Safeguarding Policy will take care of the majority of your policy needs.

You need to be promoting and using it.

Alongside the National policy, your club/association can implement your own specific initiatives.



Safeguarding in New South Wales



WORKING WITH KIDS HANDBOOK

INFORMATION FOR COACHES, MANAGERS & OFFICIALS

Football NSW
young people
improve child
affiliated Football

CHILD SAFETY

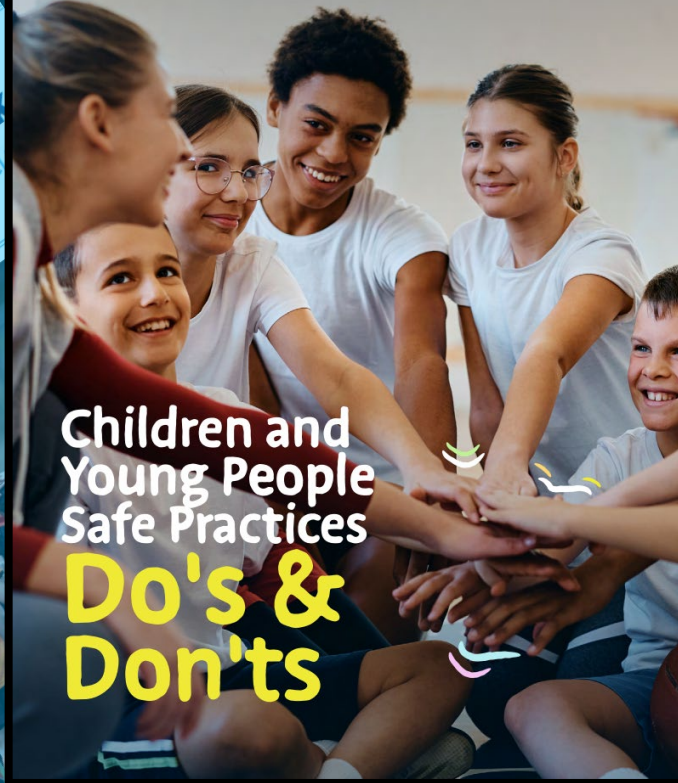
Child Safe Standards – Getting Started

The Child Safe Standards are compulsory for all Football NSW branches, referee branches.



Safeguarding
in Sport

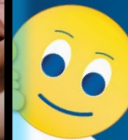
Children and Young People Safe Practices **Do's & Don'ts**



[Child Safe Standards - Getting Started](#)

[Child Safe Standards Flyer](#)

FOOTBALL IS A CHILD SAFE SPORT



If you ever feel unsafe or uncomfortable please
tell a parent/guardian or a club member.
You can always speak to



Member

Needs a Member
Information Officer

Resources to support you

Office of the Children's Guardian eLearning

- Sport-specific course
- Short and designed for busy volunteers
- Free

Module 1: Child Safe Sport

33% COMPLETE

▼ INTRODUCTION

- Course overview ☒
- The Royal Commission ☒

▼ MODULE ONE: CHILD SAFE SPORT

- A child safe culture ☒
- The 10 Child Safe Standards ☒
- Identifying abuse ☐
- Grooming ☐
- Reporting abuse ☐
- Online safety ☐
- Child safe participation and empowerment ☐
- Child safe policies ☐

▼ MODULE ONE: APPLY KNOWLEDGE

- Quiz ☐

▼ CONCLUSION

- Summary ☐
- Completion certificate ☐


Part 4 of 13

The 10 Child Safe Standards

Helping you to create a child safe organisation

The ten Child Safe Standards will help you keep children safer at your club. They are also **mandatory** if you provide services to children in NSW.

Click on the **ticks** to learn more about each Standard.



The infographic displays the 10 Child Safe Standards in a grid format, each with a unique icon and a brief description:

- STANDARD 1**: Child safety is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture. (Icon: Shield with checkmark)
- STANDARD 2**: Children participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously. (Icon: Group of people)
- STANDARD 3**: Families and communities are informed and involved. (Icon: Family group)
- STANDARD 4**: Equity is upheld and diverse needs are taken into account. (Icon: Gears)
- STANDARD 5**: People working with children are suitable and supported. (Icon: Person with checkmark)
- STANDARD 6**: Processes to respond to complaints of child abuse are child focused. (Icon: Magnifying glass)
- STANDARD 7**: Staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe through continual education and training. (Icon: Graduation cap)
- STANDARD 8**: Physical and online environments minimise the opportunity for abuse to occur. (Icon: Building)
- STANDARD 9**: Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is... (Icon: Gear)
- STANDARD 10**: Policies and procedures... (Icon: Document)

Resources to support you



- Sport-specific safeguarding support
- Can work with individual clubs or Associations
- Services include workshops, audits, risk management support.
- Contact
Matt.Sibley@safesportsolutions.com.au

Child Safeguarding Solutions

Child Safeguarding is a vital part of any successful sporting organisation in Australia. Safe Sport Solutions focuses on practical, actionable advice that makes it easy for you to meet your legal obligations and harness the benefits of a child safe approach to sport.

We understand that safeguarding can be daunting for volunteers. Our philosophy: it is only possible to develop effective safeguarding measures for volunteers with an understanding of the volunteer experience.

We can simplify things for you. Safeguarding is too often presented as a chore that gets in the way of sport - we will show not only how to be compliant with your legal requirements, but also how safeguarding can enhance the sporting experience for athletes and coaches alike. Safeguarding can be an opportunity to rejuvenate your sporting culture, attract more athletes, and increase athlete retention.

Safe Sport Solutions goes beyond the basic level of safeguarding: risk, liability and compliance. We'll help you proactively prevent issues, protect your reputation and keep children, staff, and volunteers safe.

Explore what we offer





Workshop Exercise

On your table is a checklist of child safeguarding actions for your club. In groups, discuss each entry.

There are two steps:

- 1** Are you already doing this? If you are, do you have any advice on how to implement it? If not, how might you go about making it happen?
- 2** Identify three child safeguarding actions that you will implement at your club.

2026 FOOTBALL NSW CLUB DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY 2026



**FOOTBALL
NSW**