WA CRICKET

Child Safeguarding

WA Cricket – Cricket Australia

Presented by:
Chris Payne
Affiliate Services Specialist - WA Cricket

Child Safeguarding

WA Cricket acknowledges the Whadjuk people of the Nyoongar Nation as the Traditional Custodians of this country and its waters. We pay our respects to Nyoongar Elders both past and present.

Agenda:

- Cricket Australia Safeguarding Framework
- Legislation – Working with Children Check
- Role of Club
- Role of Child Safety Officer
- Livestreaming/Digital
- Kids in Senior Cricket
- Reporting
- Resources



Why does Australian Cricket have a Safeguarding Framework?

- All sports in Australia have policy frameworks to protect participants and maintain integrity.
- These policies are based on Australian legislation and are designed to help everyone follow the law within the context of their sport.
- Australian Cricket's Safeguarding Framework ensures that every cricket participant, including Children and Young People, can engage in the sport free from abuse, harassment, bullying, or any other form of inappropriate conduct. It also supports national and state bodies, associations and clubs to operate within Australian law.
- The framework is crucial for fostering a safe, fair, and inclusive environment across all levels of cricket, from local clubs to national programs.



Safeguarding Children and Young People Framework

There are three main components to the Safeguarding Children and Young People Framework

1. Commitment Statement
2. Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy
3. Looking After our Kids Code of Behaviour



1. Commitment Statement



Australian Cricket recognises the important role that Children and Young People play within our sport and the special care and attention that they need to feel safe. Delivering a child safe framework across our sport is achieved through supporting Children and Young People, their parents and guardians and by Australian Cricket and each of our Affiliated Associations, Clubs and Indoor Centres striving to be a child safe organisation.

There are 3 areas

- Our Commitment to Children and Young People
- Our Commitment to Parents and Guardians
- Our Commitment to being a Child Safe Organisation

WA CRICKET

2. Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy

The National Principles for Child Safe Organisations (the National Principles) set out a nationally consistent approach to promoting a culture of child safety and wellbeing within organisations.

- Part of Australian Cricket's ongoing commitment to safeguarding Children and Young People involved in cricket;
- Aims to support the creation of a safe, fair and inclusive environment for all Children and Young People associated with our sport from grassroots to the elite level;
- Seeks to inform everyone who is involved in cricket of their rights and responsibilities in relation to Children and Young People; and
- Sets out the standards of behaviour expected of relevant persons.

https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/department/publications/publication/creating-a-safer-wa-for-children-and-young-people

Who And When Does This Policy Apply?

Relevant Persons - means Australian Cricket Personnel, Cricket Participants, Australian Cricket Players and Australian Cricket Support Personnel.

Relevant Organisations - means Affiliated Associations & Clubs, and Indoor Centres and Australian Cricket.

All Relevant Persons and Organisations must comply with this Policy **at all times** when **dealing with Children & Young People** as a result of their position or connection via cricket.

This means at all of the following times:

- on and off the field
- in paid or unpaid roles
- on or off the clock.

3. Looking After our Kids Code of Behaviour

Australian Cricket's Looking After Our Kids Code of Behaviour details the expectations of acceptable behaviour of all persons who are responsible for the care and wellbeing of Children and Young People in our sport.

- Acting Appropriately to Your Role
- Use Of Language and Tone of Voice
- Positive Guidance and Discipline
- Supervision
- Use Of Electronic or Online Communications
- Photographs And Footage of Children And Young People
- Livestreaming Matches Involving Children and Young People
- Physical Contact with Children And Young People
- Overnight Stays and Sleeping Arrangements
- Change Room Arrangements
- Use Of, Possession or Supply of Alcohol or Drugs
- Parent or Carer Involvement In Cricket
- Transporting Children and Young People
- Pick Up and Collection of Children and Young People
- Attending to an Injured or Unwell Child or Young Person

Role of the Club

- Ongoing endorsement of the Framework
- Appoint a Child Safety Officer
- Promote Child Safety within the club to parents, caregivers, kids and volunteers that are involved with the club
- Create safe environments for children



Cricket Australia has resources and templates to support clubs, including:

- Child Safety Officer toolkit
- Child Safety posters for clubs
- Template emails to send to parents

WA CRICKET

Role of the Club



- At the start of each season, it is important to confirm that your club or association has re-endorsed the Framework documents.
- This is especially important if there has been a turnover of committee members or volunteers to ensure good governance and the understanding of expectations around Child Safeguarding.
- Once the Framework has been endorsed by your club/association it's time to promote it with your club community.
- CA resources – Adoption guide, template email to parents, flyers to educate children & children, social media templates.

WA CRICKET

Child Safety Resources for Clubs



Adoption Guide

Steps for clubs and associations to endorse the safeguarding framework, promote child safety, and appoint a Child Safety Officer.



Commitment Guide

Steps for clubs and associations to continue their commitment to child safe practices and culture.



Recruitment Guide

Tips for conducting interviews and reference checks.



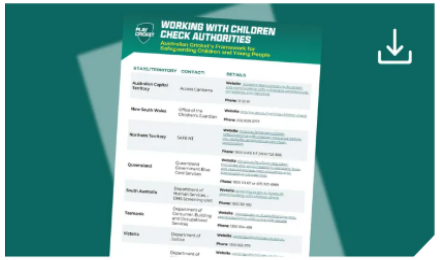
Junior Player Leadership Group Guide

A framework for establishing a leadership group to develop skills and platform young voices.



Social Media Tiles for Clubs and Associations

Promotional materials to communicate the importance of child safety at your club or association.



Working with Children Check Authorities

Table of Working With Children Check authorities in each State and Territory



Easy Read Code of Behaviour

An easy english translation of the Looking after our Kids: Code of Behaviour



Child Safety Response

Steps for responding to child safety concerns, and who to refer or report these matters.

WA CRICKET

Role of the Child Safety Officer



- Promote good safeguarding practices and create a safe environment for children and young people.
- Encourage participation of children, young people, parents, and guardians in decision-making.
- Be the main contact for safeguarding matters at the club/association.
- Advise the committee on roles requiring WWCC
- Attend Committee meetings and ensure safeguarding is a standing agenda item.
- Report all complaints, allegations, and suspicions of prohibited conduct to authorities and, relevant State Cricket Association representative.

WA CRICKET

Role of the Child Safety Officer

Cricket Australia has developed a toolkit to be a starting point for promoting and embedding Child Safety at your Club or Association.

It provides you with **practical tips** and **resources** to support your role as a Child Safety Officer.

https://play.cricket.com.au/community/resources/player-safety/child-safety



Child Safety Officer Toolkit

A starting point for Child Safety officers with practical tips and resources to support your role to promote and embed the Framework.

WA CRICKET

Summary - Role of the Child Safety Officer

Key Points

1. Be the Club's Safeguarding Contact
- Act as a trusted point of contact for safeguarding concerns.
- Support members to understand policies and processes.
- Promote awareness and education.

2. You Don't Need All the Answers
- Your role is not to investigate allegations.
- Your role is to listen, document, support and report.
- Seek assistance when unsure.



Role of the Child Safety Officer

Key Points cont.

3. Understand Reporting Pathways
- Know when matters should remain at club level.
- Know when matters must be escalated to WA Cricket, Cricket Australia, police or child protection authorities.
- Prioritise the safety of the child.

4. Maintain Confidentiality
- Share information only with those who need to know.
- Keep accurate records.
- Avoid discussing concerns broadly within the club.





Compliance vs Culture

- Compliance: policies and requirements.

- Culture: behaviours, accountability, respect and child-centred leadership.



Children Experience Culture, Not Policies

- Children notice behaviour, communication and leadership more than documents/policies.
- Adults within the club lead the way in these behaviours

Considerations for clubs

Youth leadership/advisory groups in clubs

- Lead by an adult who can demonstrate an understanding of appropriate behaviours when engaging with Children/Young People
- Topics can include - Game day experience, Player support, Uniform and merchandise, Inclusion and diversity, Leadership and pathways, Recognition and retention, Community involvement, Team and club events, Club values and goals

Having two adults present is recommended so that one person can facilitate the discussion, and one can take notes.



Considerations for clubs - workshops

True Sport Youth Supporting Youth Workshop
- Juniors aged 12-16, with parents and guardians encouraged to attend
- Aim: build multiple wellbeing leaders within the club

TrueSport 101 - Ballajura-Landsdale CC
- Workshop paired with the season opener to show wellbeing is at the heart of the club
- Role modelling for juniors was key: opening the conversation early shows speaking up is normal

Athlete Wellbeing & Connection Workshops
- Partnership with Butterfly Foundation, a national charity preventing eating disorders and body dissatisfaction and supporting those affected

Being a BodyKind Athlete
- What body image is and why it matters in sport
- Key influences on body image and challenging body ideals in sport
- Supporting eating, movement and training

Body Confident Athlete: Coach the Coach | Coaches, parents, coordinators, volunteers 18+
- Understanding body image in sport and what to do if concerned about a young person
- Power of role modelling and fostering positive, safe, inclusive environments

Contact – Crystal Sing – WA Cricket Community Partnerships Officer - Crystal.Sing@wacricket.com.au

WA CRICKET

Working with Children Check



WWC checks and relevant State government legislation and compliance is through the Department of Communities.

Exemptions

Certain people do not require a WWC Check as outlined in the *Working with Children (Screening) Act 2004* and the *Working with Children (Screening) Regulations 2005*.

There are some general exemptions which apply across all categories of child-related work while others are specific to a particular category or circumstance.

If a person's work is covered by an '**exemption**', then they are ineligible to apply for a WWC Check. However, it is important to consider all the work a person does when deciding whether they are exempt or not.

Working with Children Check

Exemptions - The parent volunteer exemption

A parent volunteering at the same club, association or movement at which their child is involved, or ordinarily involved.

Western Australia considers that voluntary work done by parents to support their children should not be regulated by legislation. Many parents give up their time to volunteer in organisations with their children, like sporting clubs, schools, and churches and may be exempt from a WWC Check.

The WWC Screening Unit actively monitor that parent volunteers aren't applying for a WWC Check when they shouldn't be. To safeguard children in these situations, there are other child safety strategies that are more workable and effective. Please note, the parent volunteer exemption only applies where the child of the parent is under 18 years of age.

Working with Children Check

Factsheet
CAT12
Categories of child-related work 12: a club, association, or movement

Considerations for clubs

Roles including:

Volunteers and employees of a club, association or movement who have contact or are likely to have contact with children as part of their usual duties including coaches, trainers, leaders,

team managers and officials.

Live Streaming and Digital

Livestreaming has expanded the reach of grassroots cricket. Cricket Australia has created user-friendly resources to help clubs manage livestreaming.

Clubs are responsible for ensuring they have the consent of all participants in a match before livestreaming. This includes the opposition team and the umpires. For participants under the age of 18, the parent or guardian must provide consent.

Consent status for video streaming is now being captured via the online registration process for underage players.

To enable streaming, clubs are also required to confirm consent in FrogBox for any under-18 participants within 72 hours of the scheduled match start time.



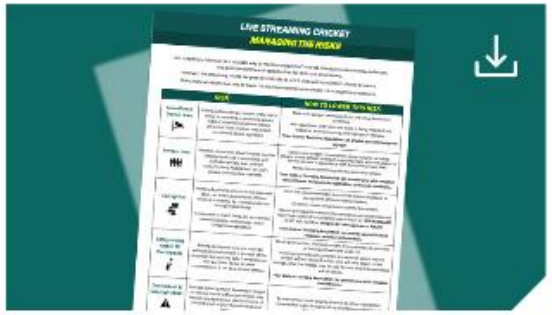
https://play.cricket.com.au/community/resources/player-safety/livestreaming-digital

WA CRICKET

Live Streaming and Digital



Consent & Release Form



Managing the Risks



Template Signage



PlayCricket Support

Information and forms can be accessed via:
https://play.cricket.com.au/community/resources/player-safety/livestreaming-digital

WA CRICKET

Live Streaming and Digital

The Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport - Photographing and filming children

Sport and recreation organisations are expected to create and maintain safe environments that are fit for purpose, provide positive experiences and ensure the safety of children.

In Australia, there are no laws specifically prohibiting photographing and filming people (including children) in public places. It is a legitimate pursuit to film and take photos at sporting events.

The Play by the Rules website provides advice to taking images of children in the sport and recreation setting, with specific mention to the law and strategies for acquiring and displaying images. https://www.playbytherules.net.au/

WA CRICKET

Social Media – Clubs, Volunteers and Participants

Responsible use of Social Media

Just like behaviour on the pitch, Social Media posts and interactions must reflect the Spirit of Cricket and values of your club.

When using Social Media, Cricket Participants should consider the following:

- Would I want my family, friends, team or coach to see this post?
- Am I revealing any confidential or sensitive information?
- Could my post damage the reputation of my Club, Association or Australian Cricket?
- Is my post disrespectful, unkind or harmful to others?
- Could my post be viewed as discriminatory, defamatory or in breach of any Integrity policies or Federal, State or Territory legislation?

WA CRICKET

Social Media – Clubs, Volunteers and Participants

Expected conduct on Social Media - When using Social Media as a representative of a Cricket Organisation.

- Show Respect - As a general guide, if a comment is not appropriate within the workplace, then it is also not appropriate on Social Media.

- Maintain Privacy, Confidentiality & Copyright -Be mindful of who you share confidential or private information with and how it is shared within to ensure that it is not inadvertently made public.

- Consider Online Reputation - When posting online consider the digital footprint and ensure that your online presence and reputation reflects the personal image you want to display.

<u>Clubs are responsible for monitoring their social media content.</u>

WA CRICKET

Social Media – Clubs, Volunteers and Participants

Junior players

Comprehensive information is available for junior players, clubs, volunteers and parents/caregivers through two Australian Government websites:

E-Safety Commissioner and Sport Integrity Australia

- https://www.esafety.gov.au
- https://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/you/children-and-young-people/staying-safe-online

The eSafety Commissioner's Sports Hub has resources for young people.

- expectations for positive online behaviour in sport
- accountability and respect in digital spaces;

Looking After our Kids in Senior Cricket

Cricket Australia has developed resources to support young players, their parents, coaches, volunteers and senior players when an underage player may participate in senior competitions.



Looking after our Kids in Senior Cricket

This page provides information for young players, their parents, coaches, volunteers and senior players when an underage player may participate in senior competitions.

Coaches and Team Captains

Explore practical strategies for guiding young players in senior teams. Learn how to assess readiness, maintain professional boundaries, and create a safe, inclusive environment. Includes tips on supervision, communication, and balancing development with wellbeing.

For Coaches and Captains →

Cricket Players Aged Over 18

Understand your role in supporting younger teammates. Discover how to be a positive role model, maintain respectful boundaries, and contribute to a safe and welcoming team culture. Guidance on online conduct, changeroom safety, and reporting concerns included.

For Senior Players →

Parents and Carers

Key considerations for parents to assess readiness and ensure safety for children wanting to play in senior teams. Find resources to evaluate not just cricket skills but emotional and physical maturity. A helpful checklist to assess club safety practices and tips for ensuring a positive experience!

For Parents and Carers →

Club Volunteers

Understand your responsibilities when working with young cricketers. Find best practice tips on maintaining boundaries, ensuring supervision, and fostering a safe club culture. Includes guidance on communication, recognising risks, and how to raise concerns.

For Volunteers →

Cricket Players Under the Age of 18

Get clear, practical advice on how to stay safe and enjoy your experience in senior cricket. Learn what respectful treatment looks like, how to navigate team dynamics, and when to speak up. Tips on communication, recognising safe...

For Under 18s →

WA CRICKET

Coaches

Cricket Australia's newly developed online coaching platform - Coach 360



Coaches

Cricket Australia's newly developed online coaching platform - Coach 360

BUILT ON THREE KEY AREAS

Developing the core skills, knowledge and confidence to create great cricket experiences.



Coaching Practice

Develop the skills you use every day as a coach, including how to prepare, communicate, observe, give feedback and reflect to help players learn and improve.



Player Development

Help players build their skills, confidence and understanding of the game through fun and engaging training and match experiences.



Environment

Creating safe, welcoming environments where everyone feels they belong, can be themselves and is supported to learn and grow.

WA CRICKET

Coaches

Welcome to the Child Safeguarding module!

Children and young people are the future of our sport. Everyone involved in cricket has a responsibility to keep them safe, both on and off the field.

As a coach, you play one of the most important roles in child safety in cricket. Your players rely on you to behave in the right way.



WA CRICKET

Sport administrators and volunteers

Respectful complaint processes in sport

When people make complaints in sport, it's important to be fair, objective and empathetic. - Knowing how to manage unreasonable conduct during a complaints process has benefits for organisations, staff, sport and complainants.

- Sport Integrity Australia has resources for clubs and volunteers on:
  What is unreasonable conduct?
- Why it's important to manage
- Guide and tip sheets for sports
- Supporting people through the complaints process

https://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/what-we-do/national-integrity-framework/respectful-complaint-processes-sport



CHILD SAFEGUARDING INITIATIVE

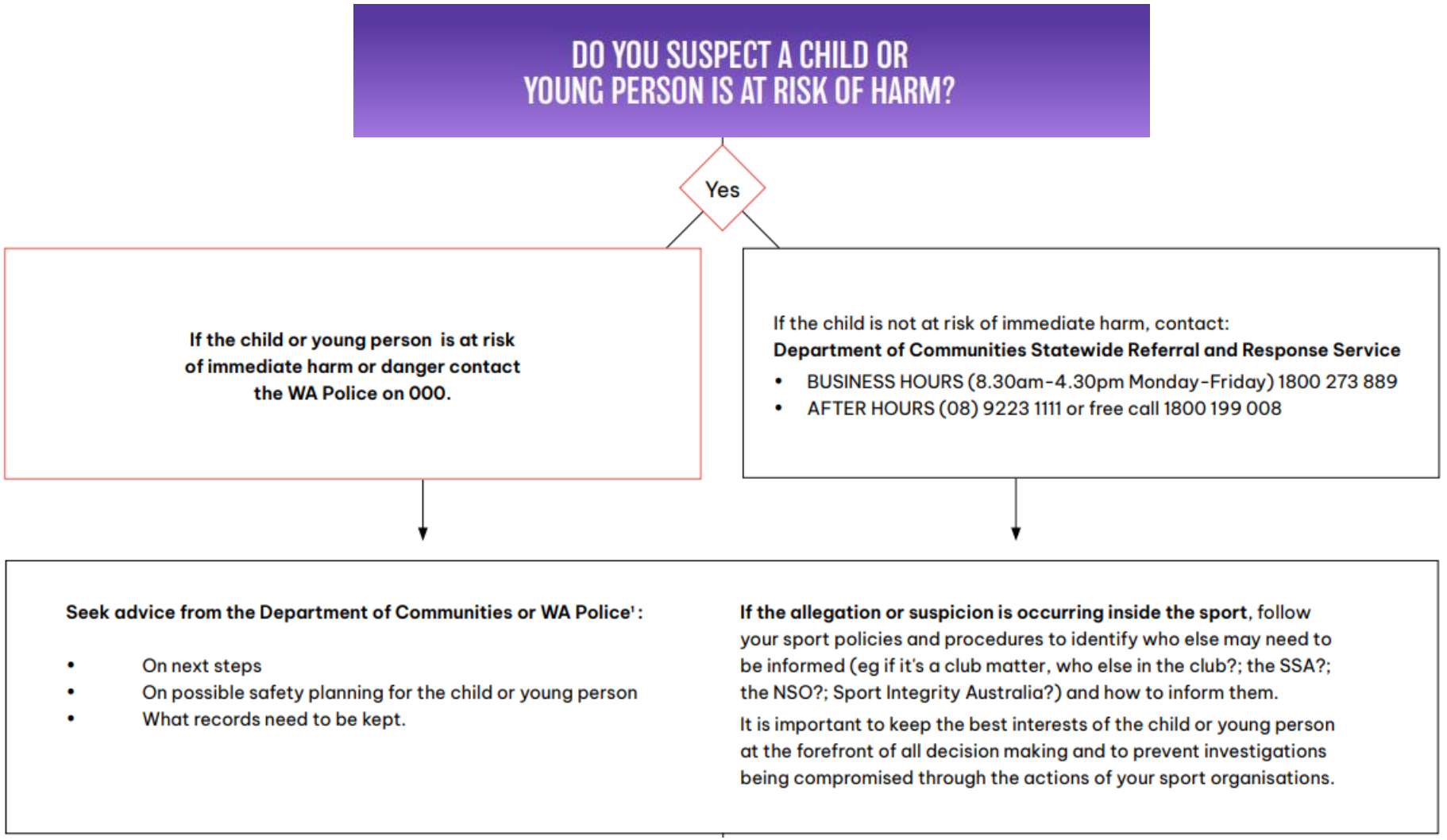
RESOURCES »

CHILD SAFEGUARDING CASE STUDIES »

WHAT DO I DO WHEN I THINK A CHILD IS AT RISK?" »

HOW DO I CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CHILDREN IN SPORT? »

Reporting – True Sport reporting Flow chart



WA CRICKET

Reporting



Australian Cricket is committed to ensuring that every cricket participant, including children and young people, participates in our sport free of abuse, harassment, bullying or any other form of inappropriate conduct.

FOR COMMUNITY CRICKET:

Complaints can be made via childsafe@cricket.com.au or to the relevant State & Territory Association integrity contact or Member Protection Information Officer.

Chris Payne
M: 0427 295 754
E: Chris.Payne@wacricket.com.au

Kelly Loakes Integrity Lead
WA Cricket integrity@wacricket.com.au

WA CRICKET



CLUB RESOURCES

- Woolworths Cricket Blast
- Player Safety
  - Australian Ball Standards
  - Child Safety
  - Concussion
  - Head and Neck Protectors
  - Helmet Recommendations
  - Junior Bowling Guidelines
  - Live Streaming and Digital
  - Medical Emergencies

CLUBS

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our game. Here you will find everything you need to support your volunteers to manage and grow their community programs, clubs and associations.

From developing new facilities to finding new ways to fundraise, ensuring the provision of safe environments for kids to insurance programs that support injured players returning to play, you'll find it all right here.









Supporting our Clubs to support Kids and Volunteers

Sports Integrity Australia eLearning courses

- Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction
- Play By The Rules - Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO)
- Play By The Rules – Complaint Handling
- Play By The Rules – Mini Course: Let Kids be Kids

eSafety Commissioner Sports Hub

- 8 ways to stay safe online in sport
- For parents
- For coaches and officials
- For players

CA - eLearning Modules

- Looking after our kids - introduction
- Looking after our kids Code of Behaviour
- Recognising Physical Abuse
- Disclosures and Reporting

Cricket Australia has now developed an online learning module for coaches





WA CRICKET

Resources

Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport

- Guidelines for photographing children
- National Principles for Child Safe Organisations

https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/

Department of Communities

- Working with Children information
- Child Safe Organisations in WA

https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-communities/working-children-check

WA CRICKET

Resources

Cricket Australia

- Child Safety Information and Resources

https://play.cricket.com.au/community/resources/player-safety/child-safety

- Livestreaming and Digital

https://play.cricket.com.au/community/resources/player-safety/livestreaming-digital

Play by the Rules

- Resources for clubs

https://www.playbytherules.net.au/

SportWest - True Sport

- Resources for clubs – Child Safeguarding and Sideline Behaviour

https://www.sportwest.com.au/



Child Safety Officer and clubs - Summary

Top 6 Takeaways for All Clubs and CSO's

1. Put children and young people first
2. Create an inclusive, welcoming and respectful environment
3. Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility
4. Recognise and respond to concerns early
5. Know your reporting and escalation pathways
6. Ask for help when you're unsure

WA CRICKET

Support

It is your responsibility if you work with Children or Young People, or support others who work with Children or Young People, to be familiar with the Framework.

If you see something, say something!

You are **not** required to know ALL the answers.

What you must do is be aware of acceptable behaviours and make a report if something doesn't feel right.

Contact –
Chris.Payne@wacricket.com.au



WA CRICKET

Thank You

Please reach out to chris.payne@wacricket.com.au for any questions.

