



NBBC Child Safe Policy

1. Policy Statement

North Balwyn Bowls Club (NBBC) is committed to meeting the expectations of the Victorian Child Safe Standards and ensuring that children and young people who participate in NBBC events and activities have a safe and happy experience.

2. Scope & Responsibility

This Policy applies to participants, parents, spectators, contractors, officials, coaches, volunteers and staff and establishes the expectations and obligations on all parties for their behaviour with children and young people.

3. Aims

NBBC aims to protect the safety of children in our care and prevent abuse from occurring. If an allegation of inappropriate conduct is raised, NBBC will ensure that the allegation is properly addressed consistent with NBBC's child safe strategies and procedures as revised from time to time.

4. Implementation Overview

North Balwyn Bowls Club has a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and is committed to promoting and protecting children and young people by:

- taking a proactive approach to the prevention of child abuse by identifying, removing and/or reducing risks;
- encouraging the reporting of allegations when there is concern about the safety, health or wellbeing of children and young people;
- providing mechanisms that are child-friendly and easy to understand so children and young people who may be subject to abuse are able to report allegations themselves;
- treating all allegations seriously by fully investigating and handling any allegations confidentially to the degree that is possible under the law;
- cooperating with the directions of the state Police and/or Department of Health & Human Services in relation to any investigation conducted by these authorities;
- keeping a register of any allegations regarding inappropriate conduct;
- undertaking a comprehensive recruitment and screening process for all staff and volunteers; and
- promoting best practices in relation to child safety.

5. Working with children clearances

NBBC coaches and members who coach and/or supervise children are required to have a current Working with Children clearance. NBBC will keep a record of which members have a Working with Children clearance and keep data such as: application/card numbers and expiry dates.

6. Evaluation

Data on allegations of inappropriate conduct and the outcome of any investigations into the alleged conduct will be maintained on an ongoing basis, reviewed at least annually and reported to the Board by the Secretary. An analysis of any reports may lead to revisions in the policy or in implementation guidelines as appropriate.

Policy Approved by NBBC Board Oct 20th 2022

Reviewed by NBBC Board Nov 20th 2024.