SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA

Safe, fair sport:
your National Integrity Framework

This information applies only to sports that have adopted the 2026 National Integrity Framework policies. Please refer to your sport's website to confirm which version of the policies are in operation.

Safeguarding Children and Young People

Safeguarding is about protecting children and young people by creating safe, positive and enjoyable sporting environments and experiences.

Safeguarding:

- **prioritises the safety, wellbeing and best interests of children and young people aged under 18**
- **minimises risks of harm and abuse**
- **helps children and young people, and the adults around them, understand their rights.**

Everyone in sport – including athletes, coaches, officials, employees, volunteers – has a responsibility to keep children and young people safe. You should know the risks and banned behaviours (Prohibited Conduct). These are outlined in full detail in your sport's ***Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy***.

Banned behaviours – a summary

- **Abusive behaviour:** this includes physical, sexual and emotional abuse, bullying, harassment, discrimination, grooming, victimisation and vilification.
- **Harmful behaviour:** this includes excessive training and disciplinary actions, harmful focus on body image and offensive comments.
- **Private 1-on-1 communication:** an adult must not communicate in person or online with a child or young person without including their parents/carers and/or sport representatives.
- **Supplying alcohol, drugs or unauthorised medications:** this includes even common over-the-counter medications without parent/carer consent – unless in emergencies.
- **Preventing parental access:** restricting parents/carers from observing sport or communicating with their child e.g. on sport trips.
- **Unauthorised transportation:** transporting a child or young person without consent from their parent/carer.
- **Inappropriate supervision:** this includes having insufficient supervision numbers or failing to protect privacy and safety in change rooms.



- **Crossing professional boundaries:** a person in a position of authority must act appropriately and not beyond their sporting role e.g. not show favouritism, provide unsanctioned gifts.

Reporting and support information

There are reporting requirements if you suspect a child or young person is at risk of harm. **If a child or young person is in immediate danger, call police on 000.**

For advice on reporting child safeguarding matters in sport, visit sportintegrity.gov.au.

Check your sport's national website for the full *Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy*.

Find a Policy overview at sportintegrity.gov.au.

Report to SIA →

Learn more →

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