



CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

HVCT is committed to ensuring that children and young people (those under 18) who participate in our activities have a safe and happy experience. We support and respect children, young people and have a zero tolerance approach to any form of child abuse.

HVCT will ensure that child safety is embedded into our culture, reflected in our policies and procedures and practised at all levels of our sport. We are committed to making sure that all involved in the running of HVCT, our coaches, volunteers, parents, members, and visitors to HVCT understand the importance of child safety and are aware of their role and responsibilities in this area.

We will provide an environment where all children (including indigenous, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and those with a disability) feel included, safe, respected, valued and empowered.

The Standards

The eleven new Victorian Child Safe Standards will replace Victoria's original seven standards and three principles. These Standards apply to organisations as a whole, not just the areas that work with children and young people. This means that the Standards apply to all personnel at HVCT including but not limited to:

- Committee Members
- Coaches/Foundational Members/Assistant Helpers
- Parents
- Members
- Volunteers
- Visitors to the club



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The Standards are applicable from 1st July 2022 and can be viewed at <https://ccyp.vic.gov.au/child-safe-standards/the-11-child-safe-standards/>

The Standards require HVCT to take action in a range of areas, including:

- Background and suitability checks of committee, coaches, volunteers, and visitors to HVCT eg. Working With Children Certificate
- Codes of Conduct for committee, coaches, volunteers, and visitors to HVCT
- Training and supervision of committee, coaches, volunteers, and supervision of visitors to HVCT
- Documented risk assessments for all HVCT activities
- Clear procedures for reporting and acting on any concerns or allegations
- Commitment to listening to children and encouraging them to speak up if they don't feel safe.

How do I know if HVCT is meeting the Child Safe Standards?

- We have adopted the ACF National Member Protection Policy and the CV Child Safe Policy.
- WWCC has been implemented for all coaching staff, committee, volunteers and over-18 participants as part of completing their Application for Membership or Members Enrolment form.
- The website provides links to all of HVCT Child Safe Policies, codes of conduct, guidelines etc.
- HVCT Member Handbook covers the Child Safe Policy and relevant procedures.



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- Affiliation with Play by the Rules, which provides free online training in child protection, discrimination and complaint handling to committee, coaching staff, volunteers, parents/guardians and participants. This has now been replaced by Child Safeguarding in Sport Induction. All our coaches and committee members are required to complete both these courses.