

## Sample Policy Child Safe Association/Club Statement

The \_\_\_\_\_ Netball Association/Club is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and/or young people participating in our sport.

We support the rights of the child and will act to ensure a child safe environment is maintained at all times.

We also support the rights and wellbeing of our volunteers and encourage their active participation in building and maintaining a secure environment for all participants.

### 1. Association/Club Appointed Personnel

- Are responsible for the safety of the children in their care at all times.
- The minimum age of association/club personnel appointed to supervise children is 18 years. Assistants may be younger, but must be under the direct supervision of an adult.
- An association/club appointed adult will not be left alone with a child in a place that cannot be observed by others. No closed doors.
- An appointed adult will not take a child to their home, or encourage meetings outside the program activity. If meeting in a public place, only with the prior knowledge of a parent.
- The adult/child ratio should be appropriate for the activity in terms of the age and stage of development of the children.
- Appointed personnel (coaches, team officials) are to be screened as per the Netball Victoria Member Protection Regulation as required.
- Appointed personnel are to be suitably trained to work with children (ie appropriate coaching accreditation, first aid training etc)
- Personal information gathered by any adult appointed by the association/club must be kept confidential, stored securely and destroyed appropriately at the conclusion of the season.
- Any suspected breach of the Netball Australia Member Protection Policy should be reported. Further information can be located on the Netball Australia website [www.netball.com.au](http://www.netball.com.au).
- All information will otherwise be kept confidential.

### 2. Supervision at Training/Matches/Other Activities

- Adults supervising children must know where they are at all times.
- Two adults appointed by the committee must supervise all training/matches. A roster will be developed, requiring at least one parent to remain at training/match to supervise and assist each week to ensure that an adult is not left alone with a child (or group of children)
- Mixed groups to be supervised by at least one male and one female adult.

### 3. Collection

- Parents will be informed of start and finishing times. It is the parent's responsibility to collect their child on time.
- Those responsible for supervising children should be aware of who is collecting the child from training/matches and must ensure no unauthorised person has access to the child whilst under their supervision.
- Two adults must remain at the courts/venue until all children are collected.
- Adults appointed by the association/club may not drive a player home without another adult present in the car. (unless appointed adult has been screened as per MPR)

### 4. Physical Contact or Touching

- Touching should be in response to the need of the child, not the adult.
- Let players know there is a need to use physical demonstration – to facilitate better learning.
- Explain what the touching will include and ask the child's permission – resistance from the child should be respected
- Be explicit about where you will be touching. Touching should avoid breasts, buttocks and groin
- Touching should be open and not secretive
- Touching or other physical contact should be governed by the age and developmental stage of the child.
- Explain that some touching may occur to ensure the child's safety.

### 5. Unsafe Situations

The \_\_\_\_\_ Netball Association/Club is aware that children may feel especially vulnerable/unsafe in the following situations:

- Being away from home
- Billeting/Staying away overnight
- One on one coaching
- Being left behind
- Driven home alone with someone
- Supervised by a stranger
- Medical treatment
- Using toilets/change rooms
- Night/dark
- Isolated during sport activity
- Large groups
- Drug testing
- Uniform fittings

The Association/Club will take steps to ensure that children are made to feel safe by either avoiding or modifying the above situation.

## 6. Travelling Away

- When arranging a trip away with children, the Association/Club will obtain written and signed permission from a parent
- The Association/Club will provide information regarding the location, accommodation, transport, meals, departure and arrival times, any association/club appointed personnel travelling with the children and the nature of any activity to be undertaken
- A medical indemnity form must be completed by all children participating and will be taken on any overnight stay
- An adult appointed by the association/club must not share a room/bed with child/children whilst staying away overnight. Each child will have their own bed whilst travelling away from home.

## 7. Car Rosters

- The Association/Club is not responsible for any car rosters arranged by parents.
- Any transport arranged by the Association/Club for children will ensure that two adults supervise them

This statement will be review annually by the \_\_\_\_\_ Netball Association/Club committee.

Date approved: \_\_\_\_\_.