



B2

SHARE TO:   

Safeguarding children



All sporting organisations have a responsibility to provide safe environments for children and young people, ensuring they are safe from abuse and protected from people unsuitable to work with children.

In NSW the [Working With Children Check \(WWCC\)](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check) (<http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check>) is a legal requirement for those in child related work, paid or voluntary.

However, it is very important to understand that safe environments for children and young people go way beyond the WWCC. Criminal records checks are an important

tool, but can't identify people who have not previously been caught or are yet to offend.

There are also a wide range of unacceptable behaviours children may encounter in sport - such as verbal abuse, pressure, overtraining, bullying and many more. The WWCC will not prevent these - good organisation policy and practice can.

Sporting organisations must work to safeguard children and ensure their experience in sport is positive and enjoyable at all times.

What club committees should do

Contact your state or national body and find out what's already in place for your sport, including member protection and child protection policies and any child safe guidelines.

Get [step by step advice on how to become a child safe organisation](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/become-a-childsafe-organisation) (<http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/become-a-childsafe-organisation>) from the Office of the Children's Guardian, such as:

- Develop Child Safe policies
- Have a Child Safe code of conduct
- Ensure effective staff recruitment and training
- Understand privacy considerations
- Have a plan for managing risk
- Encourage children and young people to participate
- Effectively deal with complaints about behaviours towards a child
- Attend child safe training.

Have committee members and volunteers undertake [child safe training](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/news--training-and-events/child-safe-training) (<http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/news--training-and-events/child-safe-training>) with the Office of the Children's Guardian. Play by the Rules also offers [free online training in child-protection](http://www.playbytherules.net.au/interactive-scenarios/free-online-training/child-protection-harassment-and-discrimination-course) (<http://www.playbytherules.net.au/interactive-scenarios/free-online-training/child-protection-harassment-and-discrimination-course>).

More information

The Office of the Children's Guardian [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Office-of-The-Childrens-Guardian/365866326936513?sk=timeline) (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Office-of-The-Childrens-Guardian/365866326936513?sk=timeline>) can keep you up to date on the latest child-safe rules and training.

The [Clearinghouse for Sport](#)

(https://secure.ausport.gov.au/clearinghouse/knowledge_base) connects people in sport to a world of ideas, experience and knowledge.

Related topics

- [Member protection policy \(/node/2180\)](#)
- [Codes of conduct \(/node/2178\)](#)
- [Working with Children Check \(/node/2176\)](#)
- [Risk management \(/node/2159\)](#)

What's on around NSW



Family Fun

15 Apr to 17 Apr

Get the most out of your weekend - stay for two nights and enjoy participating together as a family in activities tha



Snow Sports - Week B - ages 10 to 16

9 Jul to 15 Jul

Carve it up on the slopes these school holidays with five full days on the snow.



Weekend Family Snow Sports Camp

15 Jul to 17 Jul

This self-drive snow package is a wonderful opportunity for families and friends to enjoy a weekend snow getaway toge

For parents

[School camps](#)

[Kids' holiday camps](#)

For other guests

[Community groups](#)

[Corporate guest](#)

Find a sporting club or organisation

Any sport, anywhere in NSW

For sporting clubs and organisations

Training, grants and resources
