

CHILD SAFETY OFFICER

POSITION DESCRIPTION



In response to new legislation in effect as of 2017, all clubs are required to have a nominated Child Safety Officer. Any grievances or incident reports regarding child safety or suspected or known child abuse will be directed initially to this officer, and they will be responsible for leading the club towards safer practices, a more robust plan for the protection of the children at the club, and establishing a culture of safety and growth for children.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Ensure club is compliant with new legislation regarding seven standards of child safety
- Ensure they and the other members of authority at the club are properly equipped to handle any reports of child abuse to any degree
- Ensure thorough and regular risk assessments are performed
- Ensure coaches, parents, players and others are aware of the legislation and understand its implications on how they behave
- Continually seek new ways and initiatives to support a club culture in which the safety and development of children is paramount

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must have a valid Working With Children Check
- Must register as CSO with the WRFL
- Must undertake training on child safety issues, as directed by the WRFL
- Must be a trustworthy member of the organization capable of interacting appropriately with children, parents and club officials

Ideally, the CSO should also be able and willing to participate in meeting with other members of authority in order to educate and co-ordinate child safety in line with other club strategies. Additionally, it is likely a good idea if the CSO understands the processes of applying for a WWCC, and uploading accreditations to EverProof, in order to assist other club members as they comply with the need for valid checks.

The nominated Child Safety Officer will receive resources, training and support from the WRFL, however they will also need to take charge at club level to ensure their club is on the right track.