



MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB HOCKEY SECTION INC

Child Safe Code of Conduct

Purpose

This Code of Conduct outlines appropriate standards of behaviour by adults towards children.

The Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for abuse or harm to occur. It also helps committees, members and volunteers by providing them with guidance on how to best support children and how to avoid or better manage difficult situations. This Code of Conduct applies to all people involved in **MCC Hockey Section's** activities, including coaches, officials, volunteers and parents.

All **MCC Hockey Section** committees, members and volunteers are responsible for promoting the safety and wellbeing of children and young people by:

- Adhering to our Child Safe Policy, this Code of Conduct and other MCC Hockey Section policies
- Taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse
- Treating everyone with respect, including listening to and valuing their ideas and opinions
- Welcoming all children and their families and carers and being inclusive
- Respecting cultural, religious and political differences and acting in a culturally sensitive way, particularly when interacting with children who are Aboriginal or otherwise culturally or linguistically diverse and those with a disability
- Modelling appropriate adult behaviour
- Listening to children and responding to them appropriately
- Reporting and acting on any breaches of this Code of Conduct, complaints or concerns appropriately and treat them seriously and with respect.
- Complying with our guidelines on physical contact with children
- Working with children in an open and transparent way – other adults should always know about the work you are doing with children
- Respecting the privacy of children and their families, and only disclosing information to people who have a need to know.

MCC Hockey Section committees, members and volunteers **MUST NOT**:

- Seek to use children in any way to meet the needs of adults
- Ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse
- Use prejudice, oppressive behaviour or language with children
- Engage in rough physical games
- Discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability or sexuality
- Initiate unnecessary physical contact with children or do things of a personal nature that children can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes
- Develop 'special' relationships with specific children or show favouritism through the provision of gifts or inappropriate attention
- Exchange personal contact details such as phone number, social networking site or email addresses with children
- Have unauthorised contact with children and young people online or by phone.

Reporting a child safety concern or complaint

The Club has appointed *Tim Herringshaw (Secretary/MPIO)* or any *MCCHS Committee Member* as Child Safety Persons with the specific responsibility for responding in the first instance to any complaints made by volunteers, parents or children.

That person can be contacted by *email: mcchc@hockeyvictoria.org.au* or *0400 562032*.

Committee Member contact details are available at: <http://mcchockey.org/club/club-contacts/>

Reviewing this policy

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

Date: May 2017