

**Griffith Hockey Association Statement of Commitment to Child Safety**

Version 1.0

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The Griffith Hockey Association is committed to safeguarding children and young people.

Our association provides a child safe culture by supporting children and young people, their

parents, guardians, families and communities, and by ensuring all volunteers who work with the Griffith Hockey Association are committed to safeguarding children and young people. We commit to abide by guidelines produced by Hockey Australia and Hockey NSW regarding child safety.

Our commitment to children and young people:

We intend to:

* provide a safe and supportive environment
* ensure that the experiences of children and young people are free from any form of harmful conduct, including child abuse, neglect or grooming
* empower children and young people so they feel able to respond to any behaviour that is not acceptable
* ensure children and young people know who to approach if they feel unsafe or have any child safety concerns, including abuse, neglect and grooming
* establish a reporting framework so reports are:

• easy to make for anyone in the club

• responded to in a timely and fair manner

• recorded appropriately

• forwarded to relevant authorities where necessary

* provide support for any children and young people who report or are suspected of being exposed to concerning conduct, including abuse, neglect or grooming.

Our commitment to parents, carers, families and their communities

Griffith Hockey Association is committed to supporting all the adults involved in our club, to keep children and young people safe from harm and abuse.

We intend to:

* communicate with adults involved in our club our expectations around creating, maintaining and improving a safe environment for children and young people
* share information with adults about keeping children and young people safe, including:

• where they can find further information and advice

• how to make a report if they suspect or know a child is being harmed, or if they observe a breach of our codes of conduct.

* welcome comments, compliments and complaints from children, their families and the community to guide how we work to protect children

Our commitment to being a child safe organisation

We intend to:

* ensure that Griffith Hockey Association players and volunteers follow our codes of conduct by:

• making them publicly available

• educating all our stakeholders about the importance of following them

* use the Working with Children Check (WWCC) and other screening checks as appropriate for adults who require them
* engage with stakeholders so they recognise their role in keeping children and young people safe, and
* take steps to ensure Griffith Hockey Association volunteers do not engage in concerning conduct with children and young people
* ensure that all Griffith Hockey Association stakeholders know how and when to report any concerns, complaints or allegations of concerning conduct, including abuse, neglect or grooming
* ensure that all Griffith Hockey Association participants are provided with appropriate support if they are exposed to, or report, abuse, neglect or grooming.
* work towards Developing a Child Safe Policy