

OFFICIAL



SIA Child Safeguarding Policy (easy reading document)

How your sports club looks after kids

How you should be treated, and what to do if you don't feel safe.

This information is for **children aged 7 to 12 years old to help kids understand the Child Safeguarding Policy.**

Did you know? Your sport has a set of rules to make sure sport is safe, happy and fun for you.

These rules are written down and they also give instructions on you how your sports club, and everyone involved in sport, should treat you. They explain what behaviours are ok and what behaviours are not ok. They also tells you what you can do if someone hurts you or if you do not feel safe.

How should you be treated?

When you take part in sport, you should feel safe, included and happy. The rules say that adults working in sports clubs must treat you with care and respect. They must make sure you are safe and protected from being hurt.

Anything that makes you feel scared or that hurts you is **not ok**.

Let's look more closely at nine of the rules.

- **Adults in sports clubs must treat you with respect.** Adults should speak to you in a way that makes you feel cared for and happy. They must not bully you, or say things that are hurtful, or make you feel scared.
- **Adults in sports clubs must treat you fairly,** no matter what your ability, who you are or where you are from.
- **Adults in sports clubs must keep you safe and not hurt you.** Adults must not hurt you in any way. This means they should not speak to you in a way that makes you feel upset or worried. They must not touch you or ask you to do something that makes you feel upset, scared or embarrassed.
- **Adults in sports clubs must respect your privacy.** Adults should not do anything that makes you feel embarrassed or worried. For example, they are

OFFICIAL



not allowed to take photos of you without permission from you and your family. Your body belongs to you. Nobody is allowed to touch you in a way that makes you feel upset, scared or embarrassed.

- **Adults in sports clubs must listen to you** about things that are important to you and take what you say seriously.
- **Adults in sports clubs must follow the rules of their jobs at all times.** This means adults should treat everyone the same (no favourites). They should not contact you or meet you alone outside your sport. They should not ask you to keep secrets from your parents, carers or other children.
- **Adults in sports clubs must support you and protect you from harm.** Adults also have a responsibility to help you if you tell them that you have been hurt by another person. This includes if you have been hurt by another young person, a parent or carer.
- **Adults in sports clubs must not treat you badly because you told someone about being hurt.** It is not ok for an adult to be mean to you, ignore you or treat you unfairly because you complained about them or someone else.
- **Adults in sports clubs must be allowed to work with children.** Your sports club will check that anybody who is working with children is safe to be with children. They will train all adults in child safety.

There are many other things that might make you feel upset, scared or embarrassed that are not mentioned here. You have a right to tell someone about *anything* that makes you feel unsafe or upset.

What can you do if you feel scared or have been hurt?

The rules say that sports clubs must support and help you if you don't feel safe, or if you are frightened or have been hurt. They must listen to you and do something to stop it from happening to you again.

If something happens that makes you feel upset or scared, or that hurts you in any way, **tell an adult you trust**. It doesn't matter who has hurt you or made you feel unsafe. It could be another child, a parent or carer, or adult involved in the sports

OFFICIAL



club. You have the right to tell someone about it. You can also tell someone or ask for help if you see or hear about this happening to another child.

Can you think of someone who makes you feel safe?

Who can you talk to if someone makes you feel unhappy, scared or embarrassed?

Commented [HS1]: Design note: please include in box with space for children to fill in their answers

What happens next?

After you have told an adult about the problem, they might want to help you fix the problem by making a complaint. A complaint is when you, or an adult, writes down what happened to you and gives it to a person in charge. By making a complaint, the person in charge can try to make things better. The person in charge should listen to you when you make the complaint and explain what they can do to help fix it.

If you choose to tell an adult about someone who has hurt you or made you feel unsafe, that adult might need to tell someone else. This will only happen if the adult believes that you or another child are in danger or have been treated very badly. This is why adults can't promise to keep what you say a secret. But remember, they will only tell the people who need to know so they can help fix the problem, to keep you safe.

Other ways you can get help

Kids Helpline is a free and confidential 24/7 online and phone counselling service to help kids with any problems they have. You can contact a counsellor at any time, day or night, to talk to them for any reason. The counsellor won't share what you tell them with anybody without your agreement (unless you or someone else are in danger). It is free, so you can call from your mobile, home phone or a public phone.

Visit: <https://kidshelpline.com.au/>

Call: 1800 55 1800

Email: counsellor@kidshelpline.com.au

*Confidential means the person you speak to will not share what you tell them with anybody without your agreement, unless you or someone else is in danger.

Commented [ET2]: Design note: include this in a small call out box alongside the support service details.