

Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing Child Safe Policy



1. Purpose

This policy documents the commitment of Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing to young people's safety and maintaining safe and friendly environments for young people.

2. Context

This policy reflects our endeavour to provide a safe environment where every person has the right to be treated with respect and is safe and protected from harm.

It complies with our obligations under the Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017.

It also complies with the Child Safe Environments: Principles of Good Practice adhering to the Club's Working with Children Check obligations

3. Scope

This policy, from the date of endorsement, applies to all volunteers, young people, parents, carers and other individuals in Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing.

4. Commitment to the safety of young people and the risk of harm minimisation

All young people involved in our Programs have a right to feel and be safe.

We are committed to the safety and well being of all young people accessing our services. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where all young people are valued and feel safe.

We have a child safety officer as a first point of contact to provide advice and support to young people, parents, employees and volunteers regarding the safety and well-being of young people in our organisation.

This policy was developed in consultation with our volunteers, parents and young people who use our services.

5. Young people's Participation

Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing encourage young people to express their views, and make suggestions, especially on matters that directly affect them. We actively encourage young people who use our services to "have a say" about those things that are important to them.

We value diversity and do not tolerate any discriminatory practices.

We teach young people what they can do if they feel unsafe. We listen to and act on any concerns young people or their parents raise with us.

6. Recruitment Practices

Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing takes all reasonable steps to ensure it engages the most suitable people to work with young people.

We employ a range of screening measures and apply best practice standards in the

recruitment of volunteers.

We ensure all our volunteers have current checks in line with requirements of Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017.

7. Code of Conduct

All members and volunteers are made aware of and must abide by our Code of Conduct. These documents have been developed over time in collaboration with the members.

8. Support for Volunteers

We seek to attract and retain the best volunteers. We provide support and supervision so people feel valued and respected, and are equipped to carry out their roles effectively.

9. Reporting and responding to suspected young person's harm or risk of harm

All volunteers understand their responsibility to notify the Child Abuse Report Hotline on 13 14 78 as soon as practicable if they have a reasonable suspicion that a young person has been harmed, or is at risk of harm by a member of their family.

We ensure that volunteers are aware of how to make appropriate reports of harm. We also provide opportunities for volunteers to attend a session on mandatory reporting.

10. Strategies to minimise risk

Policies and procedures may address (but are not limited to):

- Transportation
- Taking images of young people
- Supervision of young people
- Child Safety Officer
- Complaints Procedures
- Physical Contact Responsibilities
- Procedures for Breaches of Policy
- Protecting Privacy and Confidentiality
- Procedures for dealing with Situations where a Member is being Investigated for, or is charged with, a Serious Criminal Offence.

11. Harassment and Bullying

Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing opposes all forms of harassment, discrimination and bullying. We take this issue seriously and encourage anyone who believes that they, or another person, has been harassed, discriminated against or bullied to raise the issue with the Child Safe Officer or a Member of the Management Committee.

12. Communication

Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing will ensure that everyone to whom this policy applies is aware of and has had an opportunity to read the policy.

We also ask volunteers and parents to sign a written statement indicating that they have read and will abide by our Child Safe Policy.

Membership Application Forms for Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing include a signed declaration for members to abide by the Goolwa Aquatic Club Constitution, Policies and Behaviour Standards.

We retain a copy of all signed statements and documents.

Our Policy is available on the Goolwa Aquatic Club/Sailing website and on request.

13. Related Policies and Procedures

The following is a list of related policies and procedures that support this Policy.

- The Constitution of Goolwa Aquatic Club
- The Code of Conduct for Members and Office Bearers
- The Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing Membership Application Form
- Volunteer Recruitment Procedures, including those relating to conducting Child Related Employment screening
- Mandatory Reporting Procedures
- Risk Management Strategy

14. Supporting Resources

- Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing Child Safe Policy
- Goolwa Aquatic Club Sailing Member Protection Policy
- Play by the Rules Initiative.....URL=www.playbytherules.net.au
- South Australian Office for Volunteers...URL=www.ofv.sa.gov.au

15. Goolwa Aquatic Club Child Safe Officers

1. Mark Watters 0429 548 896
2. Kym Perry 0435 362 526

Adopted by GAC Sailing committee 10th December 2018

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Signed:

Ashley Newman

Chairperson, GAC Sailing