

Member protection and Child safety

ASC NSO Forum

22/11/17

Child Safe Sport Awareness Training

Background

- National Safeguarding of Children in Sport Strategy commenced in approx. 2000
- ASC engaged the Australian Childhood Foundation (ACF) to look at the capacity of sport to protect children and young people from abuse, harm and exploitation
- 2014 ACF produced a Blueprint report
 - https://www.ausport.gov.au/supporting/integrity_in_sport/child_safe_sport
- 43 sports participated in the NSO snapshot report

Background Cont'd

- Following the blueprint report and with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sex Abuse, the ASC was committed to do more work in this area
- The ACF is working with the ASC on developing the National Safeguarding Children in Sport Strategy (NSCSS) which aims to:
 - enhance the collective culture across all Australian Sports to safeguard children and young people
 - explore strategies and a best approach for how all staff, management and volunteer members of Sports across Australia can better safeguard and respond to children and young people into the future.

Available Resources to NSO's, SSO's

- **Guidelines for Directors of Sporting Organisations**

- https://www.ausport.gov.au/supporting/integrity_in_sport/integrity_guidelines_for_sporting_organisation_board_directors

- All Board Members should have WWCC!

- Play by the Rules

- <https://www.playbytherules.net.au/got-an-issue/child-protection>

It's a free resource – use it!

Child Safe Sport Framework Toolkit & Process

- Developed by ASC in conjunction with ACF
- Toolkit -
<https://www.ausport.gov.au/supporting/integrity-in-sport/child-safe-sport/child-safe-sport-framework-toolkit>
- Process -
<https://www.ausport.gov.au/supporting/integrity-in-sport/child-safe-sport/child-safe-sport-framework-process>

Why are children not protected in organisations and what is needed?

- Lack of
 - Process and support
 - Confidence
 - Awareness
 - Knowledge
- More effective to address risk factors and create safe environments than profile likely predators (not 'paedophiles')
- Need clarity as to what to report on
- What are the thresholds?
- Need transparent processes (and reporting)

What is needed?

- Create a culture that keeps children safe
- A commitment statement
- A specific code of conduct as to how children should be treated
- Reporting process
- People (members, parents, children), 'need to know what the need to know'
 - How to communicate this?
 - Use available resources
- Regardless of the child or the parents view, concerns or an incident **MUST** be reported

6 Key Elements of Child Safe Organisations – ‘the process’

1. Assess your current policies (review and enhance)
2. Update and Expand Child Safe Sport Framework
3. Endorsement of Child Safe Sport Framework (CSSF)
4. Communicate the CSSF
5. Implement the CSSF
6. Review the CSSF

Use the available resources

- If you see something – say something or do something!
- Include in your Strategic Plan!
- Get member agreement to policies and procedures when joining club
- Topic applies to both NSO's and SSO's