



**Templestowe Wolves Football Club**

ABN: 29 314 613 416

[info@templestowewolvesfc.com.au](mailto:info@templestowewolvesfc.com.au)

# Child Safety Policy

## 1 GUIDELINES FOR INTERACTING WITH CHILDREN

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### 1.1 MAINTAIN APPROPRIATE BOUNDARIES

Coaches and other personnel in positions of authority should maintain clear:

### 1.2 PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES

- Only use physical contact that is appropriate for the development of a particular skill and has the permission of the child.
- Always work within sight of others.
- A high five, a tap on the shoulder or shaking hands are all appropriate ways to show encouragement/praise.

### 1.3 EMOTIONAL BOUNDARIES

- Use drills to develop fitness, not as a punishment.
- Use positive feedback on performance, not negative feedback about the person.
- Give feedback on the action, not the person.
- Be encouraging and avoid put-downs.

### 1.4 SOCIAL BOUNDARIES

- Attend sport related events such as sponsorship and fundraising events, celebrations and annual meetings but do not socialise with a player outside sporting functions unless parents are present.
- Do not socialise with players via social media, except for team chats that include all players and coach/team manager.

### 1.5 SEXUAL BOUNDARIES

- Do not have sexual relationships with players you are coaching.
- Do not touch athletes in ways that may make them feel uncomfortable.

### 1.6 MINIMISE PHYSICAL CONTACT

Generally, physical contact with players or participants should be to:

- Develop sport skills.
- Give sports massage.
- Treat an injury.
- Prevent or respond to an injury.



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- Meet the specific requirements of the sport.

All physical contact by personnel should fulfil the following criteria:

- Physical contact should be appropriate for the development of a sport's skills.
- Permission from the player or participant should always be sought beforehand.
- Players or participants should be congratulated or comforted in public, not in an isolated setting.

### 1.7 AVOID BEING ALONE WITH A CHILD

To protect yourself and the child from risk:

- Do not isolate yourself and a child and avoid being alone with any particular child.
- If a child approaches you and wants to talk to you privately about a matter, do so in an open area and in sight of other adults (eg. other coaches, officials or parents/guardians)
- Before going into change rooms knock or announce that you will be coming in. Try to have at least one adult with you in a change room with children.
- If you need to drive a child to/from a game or training, there must always be at least three people in the car if an MUBFC official is involved.

## 2 PARENT/PLAYER CONFIRMATION DOCUMENT REGARDING DROP-OFF/PICK-UP

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### 2.1 OUR COMMITMENT

Our club is committed in adhering to the new law passed in regards to the Child Safety Act and thus providing a safe environment for the participation of children and young people.

Part of this is ensuring that children and young people are not left alone after practice or games.

### 2.2 WHAT WE WILL DO AS THE CLUB

- Make sure parents/guardians and children know the time and location of practice and games and when they can expect to collect their children.
- Request coaches and other sporting personnel to arrive before scheduled practice or game times.
- In the event that parents/guardians are late, coaches will try to make contact with them and ask a second adult to wait with the coach and the child near the pavilion area until collected.
- Get parents/guardians to collect their children from an agreed pickup point near the club room area where other people will be.
- Avoid transporting children to their homes unless permission has been given by parents/guardians. However, if you need to drive a child to/from a game or training, there must always be at least three people in the car if an MUBFC official is involved.



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- Coaches and team managers need to sight the parent/guardian before dismissal from training/game session at an agreed location point, near the club pavilion. Location point to be determined amongst the team.
- In the event that the parent/guardian are late, coaches will try and make contact with them and ask a second adult to wait with the coach and child near the club pavilion until collected.

### 2.3 WHAT WE ASK PARENTS/GUARDIANS TO DO

- Ensure that you are registered with TeamApp and available during training and game sessions should we need to contact you.
- When dropping off your child, it is your responsibility to sight the coach before leaving. In case of an unforeseen training cancellation or the coach is running late.
- Pick up your children on time, from the agreed pickup point near Club Room (or venues). If you can't, then make other arrangements beforehand. Please remember Coaches, Team Managers and other club officials would like to go home to their families too.
- It is a Club policy that no parents are to be on the pitch during training other than Club Officials (Coaches, Team Managers and Committee). If you wish to walk/jog around the pitch you can do so, however please do not interrupt the training session.

## 3 CURRENT COACH & TEAM MANAGER POLICY

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Our club is committed to providing a safe environment for our children. With this in mind, we have implemented some changes, starting immediately.

### 3.1 PICKING UP OF CHILDREN

- Coaches and Team Managers need to sight the parent/guardian before dismissing players from a training/game session, at an agreed location point near the club pavilion. The location point is to be determined amongst your team.
- In the event that a parent/guardian is late, coaches will try and make contact with them and ask a second adult to wait with the coach and the child near the pavilion until collected.

### 3.2 SAFETY AROUND THE GROUND

Any child under the age of 18 is required to be in pairs when:

- Going to and from toilet/bathroom.
- Going to and from Club Room/Canteen/Parent.
- Any other scenario where the child may be alone and not in coach's or team manager's sight.

It is Club policy for no parents to be on the training pitch during training other than Club Officials (Coaches, Team Manager, and Committee). If people wish to walk/jog around the pitch, they can do so, however they must not interrupt the training session.



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### 3.3 CLUB ROOM

- When addressing your team in a change room, please ensure that there is another adult present (Team Manager etc) at all times

Whilst we understand that some of the above points may seem extreme, the club has adopted the FFV Child Safety Policy and the above points are mandatory for all children under the age of 18.