



SANDY – A CHILD SAFE NETBALL COMMUNITY

BACKGROUND - BETRAYAL OF TRUST

In April 2012, the Victorian Government initiated an inquiry into the handling of child abuse allegations within religious and non-government organisations. The inquiry's final report, "Betrayal of Trust", made a number of recommendations that have been acted on by the Victorian Government. The creation of Child Safety Standards (the Standards) was one of the key recommendations.

There are 7 Child Safety standards that apply to sporting organisations that operate and provide sporting services to children within Victoria.

Two documents have been developed to help support Netball Victoria and all its affiliates to comply with the new Standards – The Child Safety in Netball Code of Conduct and the Child Safety in Netball Policy



Links to Read

These documents will assist you in the process we must all go through in order to ensure we are meeting our obligations both legal and otherwise in this space. Please open and read the following documents

Child Safety in Netball Code of Conduct

<https://vic.netball.com.au/sites/vic/files/2020-01/Child-Safety-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

Child Safety in Netball Policy

<https://vic.netball.com.au/sites/vic/files/2020-01/Child-Safety-Policy.pdf>



Netball Vic – Commitment to Child Safety

In addition to this Netball Vic have made a Commitment Statement to Child Safety
<https://vic.netball.com.au/sites/vic/files/2020-04/Child%20Protection%20Commitment%20Statement.pdf>

Again it is important that you all read and understand this Commitment Statement.



Sandy – Commitment Statement

At Sandy

- We follow the Netball Vic Commitment Statement
- We believe that all children have the right to be happy and safe
- We have zero tolerance for child abuse
- We support and respect children of all abilities
- We support and respect children from all cultures and backgrounds
- We actively promote the empowerment of the children within our community
- We listen to the children within our community



7 Standards

7 Standards have been put into place

The Standards came into effect on 1 January 2017 and apply to sporting organisations that operate and provide sporting services to children within Victoria.

The standards are a compulsory framework that support organisations to promote the safety of children.

Netball Vic - <https://vic.netball.com.au/7-child-safety-standards>

The above site lists the standards and provides links to explain each standard in more detail and what they mean to you and your club/association.



STANDARD 1-

Strategies to embed an organizational culture of child safety through effective leadership arrangements

- Build child safety into everyday thinking and practice.
- Cultivate a culture of awareness.
- Continual discussion - Include child safety as a regular communication item with your staff, committees, volunteers, coaches, umpires, children and families.
- Have child safety representatives or champions who are appropriately trained and supported.
- Undertake a Safety Review.
- Undertake awareness training e.g Play by the Rules Child Protection Course.



STANDARD 2-

A child safe policy or commitment to child safety

- Being familiar with Netball Victoria's commitment to child safety.
- Being familiar with Netball Victoria's Child safe policy and understand how to meet your duty of care responsibilities to children.
- Making a commitment to child safety clear to people in your organisation, children, families and the community.
- Continual communication of Netball Victoria's Child Safety Policy. Including website, newsletters and social media.
- Adopt this standard as your own !



STANDARD 3 –

A code of conduct that establishes clear expectations for appropriate behaviors with children.

- Be familiar with Netball Victoria's Child Safe Code of Conduct – this addresses appropriate behaviors towards children.
- Ensure your community is aware of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors.
- Educate staff, volunteers parents and children about required standards of behaviors.
- Actively promote standards of behaviors on all platforms.



STANDARD 4 –

Screening supervision and training and other HR practices that reduce the risk of child abuse in new and existing personnel

- High quality supervision.
- Understand the signs of child abuse.
- Engage suitable people.
- Effective screening and training.



STANDARD 5 –

Processes for responding to and reporting child abuse

- Putting in place clear procedures for responding and reporting child safety concerns or child abuse.
- These procedures should be clear and easily understood by our children.
- Ensure we are all aware of our duty of care and act / respond accordingly and appropriately.
- We are all responsible for encouraging and enabling people to speak up.

** Part 3 – Complaints procedure in the Netball Victoria child Safety in Netball Policy*



STANDARD 6 –

Strategies to reduce or remove risk of child abuse

- Identify potential flaws in our organizations and potential risks involved.
- Be proactive to reduce risks.
- Adopt a Risk Management Approach / Plan.



STANDARD 7 -

Strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children

- Support our young community in understanding their rights.
- Enable them to contribute and raise concerns.
- Encourage their participation in decision making.
- Establish an environment of trust and inclusion.



Steps to Address the Standards

1. Nominate people within your club to form a working group for Child Safety. Ensure everyone is familiar with Child Safe Policy, Code of Conduct and Netball Vic's Commitment Statement

2. Download and complete the Club Review Template from Netball Vic

3. Download and complete the Child Safety Risk Management Template from Netball Vic

4. Download the Action Item Template from Netball Vic

5. Develop your plan and Download Posters, Flyers modify and display



Support & Assistance

Netball Vic
9321 2222
<https://vic.netball.com.au>

The Department of Health & Human Services
9096 0000
childsafestandards@dhhs.vic.gov.au

VicSport
Child Safe Standards – What Do they Mean
www.vicsport.com.au/child-safe-standards

Play By The Rules – Child
Protection Course
<https://www.playbytherules.net.au/online-courses/child-protection-online-course>

Netball Vic Complaints Management
Guidance
<https://vic.netball.com.au/sites/vic/files/2020-04/NV%20CSF%20Case%20Management%20Guidance%202019%20301019%20%283%29.pdf>

