



CHILD SAFETY FRAMEWORK PARENTS & GUARDIANS GUIDE

Guide for Kids

The following Child Safe resource is provided as a reference only.

This document and its content is provided as a guide for your organisation as of July 2020. Your organisation should also consider referencing any information, documents and strategies that might be specifically required for your organisation and relevant to its circumstances, structure and operations.

The information contained in this document is general in nature and should not be considered or relied upon as a substitute for legal advice.

Please note that references in [square brackets] throughout this document should be tailored for your organisation's policies and procedures.

Cricket Victoria recommends using this resource with due consideration and consulting a child safe expert or legal advisor to assist with any questions.

IMPORTANT: This Child Safe resource is provided as a reference only. The information contained in this document is general in nature. Please make sure you seek the help of a trusted adult if you have any concerns after reading this.

YOUR CLUB'S CONTACT FOR KIDS

Name:

Phone Number:

Three Important Messages

The **three key messages** to always keep in mind are:

1. Cricket should be fun, safe and enjoyable.
2. You should never feel uncomfortable around others in cricket, particularly adults.
3. If you don't feel safe or comfortable, it's OK to speak up. We want you to **tell an adult that you trust** – whether that's your Mum or Dad, guardian, coach or another member of your cricket club or family.

Your rights

We believe that all kids involved in our sport should:

- Feel comfortable;
- Feel safe;
- Have a right to contact your parents, guardians or others if you feel unsafe, uncomfortable or distressed at any time when you are involved in cricket;
- Be provided with clear directions and given the chance to positively change your behaviour if cricket staff, coaches, volunteers or officials believe that you have broken any rules or policies, or you have misbehaved;
- NOT be subject to disciplinary action involving physical punishment, or any form of treatment that could reasonably be considered cruel, frightening, discriminatory, humiliating or like you are being put down; and
- Contribute suggestions or feedback about cricket activities.

Our Commitment to Kids in Cricket

Cricket in Victoria now has a **Child Protection Commitment Statement** that aims to make sure that kids are protected from harm. When involved in cricket, we want it to be enjoyable for everyone. So, we'll try to make sure that activities are suitable for your age and development and are led by appropriately qualified people.

Cricket in Victoria commits to:

- Doing our best to make sure that you are protected from harm;
- Supervising your involvement in cricket in Victoria;
- Obtaining parent/guardian permission in writing before we can:
 - take you on an excursion;
 - arrange overnight stays or camps; and/or
 - provide transport to another location.
- Ensuring that **employee/coach/volunteer/official-to-Kids ratios are maintained**. (Note - please check with us if you are unsure what is meant by "ratios");
- Trying to make sure that **kids are not alone** with staff, coaches, volunteers or officials where they can't be seen by other adults – in person and online (see the **Guide for Kids – eSafety Tips**);

- Trying to make sure that **cricket staff, coaches, volunteers and/or officials stay within their role**. This means that they cannot be employed for looking after you or visiting you at your home unless with the permission of your Parent/Guardian. They are not allowed to friend you on Facebook, take photos or footage of you for Instagram, YouTube, Tik-Tok, Snap Chat or other forms of social media. Communication between you and coaches, officials and volunteers in cricket must be regarding your involvement in cricket, unless your Parent/Guardian has given their permission for you to have contact with them at a particular time;
- **Guiding kids fairly, respectfully and appropriate to their age and background;**
- **Reporting and responding to any incidents** of abuse or neglect towards kids who are involved in cricket; and
- Where and when possible, our **Cricket staff, volunteers and officials wearing a uniform and/or having an appropriate name badge visible** only when on duty.

What to do if you have concerns:

- If at any stage you feel uncomfortable, unsafe or worried, you must let your parent/guardian or a trusted adult in cricket know what has happened – they will want to support you.
- All you need to do is tell someone about what happened and they will do their best to make sure that you feel safe and protected from harm.

Responsibilities of Kids in Cricket

When you are involved in cricket, you also have some responsibilities. These include:

- Letting a club member/parent or guardian know if you are unhappy with how you are being treated or you don't feel safe;
- Treating other participants and adults with respect;
- Following the rules when involved in cricket;
- Remembering that there are others involved in cricket. You are certainly free to choose your own friends. However, don't stop other kids from enjoying and participating in cricket; and
- Listening to others and respecting their opinions.