

CHILD SAFETY POLICY

Purpose

The Gisborne and District Bowling Club's Child Safe Policy has been prepared to demonstrate the strong commitment of the Board and the Club members to keep all children safe from any harm, including abuse.

Commitment to Child Safety

All children who come to the Gisborne and District Bowling Club have a right to feel and be safe. The welfare of the children visiting our Club will always be our first priority and we will have a zero tolerance to any form of child harm, including abuse. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and can have fun.

Children's Right to Safety and Participation

The Gisborne and District Bowls Club Board and Club Members encourage children to express their views. We actively encourage all children who participate in Club activities to 'have a say' about things that are important to them.

We advise children about what they can do if they feel unsafe. We listen and act on concerns children or their parents or guardians raise with us.

Valuing Diversity

The Gisborne and District Bowling Club values diversity and will not tolerate any discriminatory practices. To achieve this we:

- promote the participation of children of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island background and their families
- promote the participation of children from culturally diverse backgrounds and their families
- welcome children with a disability and their families and act to promote their participation.

Volunteers

The Gisborne and District Bowling Club applies best practise standards in accessing volunteers/members to work with children. We will ensure working with children checks are completed for all volunteers/members supporting participation by children. A register of those who have had working with children checks will be maintained together with a copy of the working with children check card.

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Reporting a Child Safety Concern or Complaint

The Gisborne and District Bowling Club's Board is appointed as the Child Safety Committee with the specific responsibility for responding to any concerns or complaints made by children, their parents or guardians, volunteers and or members.

Risk Management

We recognise the importance of a risk management approach to minimising the potential for child harm, including abuse, to occur and use this to inform our policy, procedures and activity planning.

Reviewing this Policy

This policy will be reviewed every two years and we undertake to seek points of view, comments and suggestions from children, parents, guardians, volunteers and members when this review takes place.