



ARL CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

Every person and organization bound by this policy must always place the safety and welfare of children above all other considerations.

The Australian Rugby League acknowledges that our staff and volunteers provide a valuable contribution to the positive experiences of our juniors. The ARL aims to ensure this continues and to protect the safety and welfare of its junior participants.

Several measures will be used to achieve this such as:

- Prohibiting any form of abuse against children;
- Providing opportunities for our juniors to contribute to and provide feedback on our program development;
- Carefully selecting and screening people whose role requires them to have regular contact with children. (Screening procedures are outlined in the ARL Member Protection Policy, Part B);
- Ensuring the ARL National Codes of Conduct, particularly for roles associated with junior sport, are promoted, enforced and reviewed;
- Providing procedures for raising concerns or complaints (our complaints procedure is outlined in the ARL Member Protection Policy, Part C); and
- Providing education and/or information to those involved in our sport on child abuse and child protection.

The ARL requires that any child who is abused or anyone who reasonably suspects that a child has been or is being abused by someone within our sport, to report it immediately to the police or relevant government agency and the organization's Member Protection Officer.

Descriptions of the sorts of activity which may be abuse are in the ARL Member Protection Policy (Clause 11 – Dictionary).

All allegations of child abuse will be dealt with promptly, seriously, sensitively and confidentially. A person will not be victimized for reporting an allegation of child abuse and the privacy of all persons concerned will be respected. Our procedures for handling allegations of child abuse are outlined in the ARL Member Protection Policy (Attachment C).

If anyone bound by this policy reasonably suspects that a child is being abused by his or her parent/s, they are advised to contact the relevant government department for youth, family and community services in their state/territory.

For further information on this policy, contact Rod Hughes on 0409 008 128 or email rodhughes@arldevelopment.com.au

Signed:

Colin Love
ARL Chairman

Signed:

Geoff Carr
ARL Chief Executive

Community Football Department, ARL Development

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