



# WOODVILLE LACROSSE CLUB Inc

Established 1899

## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

**Effective Date:** 18 February 2023

**Review Date:** 18 February 2024

### PREFACE

The Woodville Lacrosse Club is committed to treating all people with respect, dignity and fairness. These values, along with the basic right of all Lacrosse members to participate in an environment that is enjoyable, safe and healthy, has resulted in the Woodville Lacrosse Club developing specific objectives to create a safer and more tolerant sporting environment.

Lacrosse is not immune to acts of discrimination, harassment and abuse and in fact shares the common features of most sporting environments where close physical and emotional relationships can develop and inappropriate or unlawful behaviour can take place.

The Woodville Lacrosse Club is both ethically and legally responsible to prevent discrimination and more specifically harassment from occurring in Lacrosse. The adoption of the Woodville Lacrosse Club Member Protection Policy reflects our commitment to serving and protecting its members and participants throughout all levels of the sport. This Policy is only one component of the overall strategy and the implementation and enforcement of this Policy will require ongoing commitment.

### LEGAL NOTICE

The Woodville Lacrosse Club does not give legal advice to individuals. The information contained in this document is not and should not be considered as legal advice.

This Member Protection Policy covers issues that are the subject of federal and state laws. Every effort has been made to comply with relevant federal and state laws. It is important to obtain independent legal advice about any breach of this Policy.

The Woodville Lacrosse Club does not accept responsibility for any errors or omissions contained in this Policy, or loss or damage however caused (including by negligence) which an organisation or any of its members, employees or agents or any other person, may directly or indirectly incur that arises out of or in connection with the use of or reliance on this Policy.

### 1. Purpose of this Policy

This Policy aims to ensure our core values, good reputation and positive behaviours and attitudes are maintained. It assists us in ensuring that every person involved in our sport is treated with respect and dignity, and is safe and protected from abuse. This Policy also ensures that everyone involved in our sport is aware of his or her legal and ethical rights and responsibilities.

The Policy attachments provide the procedures that support our commitment to eliminating discrimination, harassment, child abuse and other forms of inappropriate behaviour from our sport. As part of this commitment, the Woodville Lacrosse Club will take disciplinary action against any person bound by this Policy if they breach it.

This Policy has been endorsed by the Woodville Lacrosse Club Management Committee and copies of the Policy and its attachments can be obtained from our website at [www.warriorlax.com](http://www.warriorlax.com) or the WLC [Secretary](#).

## 2. Who this Policy applies to

This Policy applies to the following, whether they are in a paid or unpaid/voluntary capacity:

- Individuals sitting on committees and sub-committees;
- Volunteers;
- Support personnel (e.g. managers, sport trainers, scorers);
- Coaches and assistant coaches;
- Athletes and players;
- Referees, umpires and other officials;
- Members, including life members;
- Parents, guardians, spectators and sponsors to the full extent that is possible.

This Policy will continue to apply to a person even after they have stopped their association with the Woodville Lacrosse Club if disciplinary action, relating to an allegation of child abuse against that person, has commenced.

## 3. Organisational Responsibilities

The Woodville Lacrosse Club must:

- Adopt, implement and comply with this Policy;
- Publish, distribute and otherwise promote this Policy and the consequences for breaching it;
- Promote appropriate standards of conduct at all times;
- Promptly deal with any breaches of or complaints made under this Policy in an impartial, sensitive, fair, timely and confidential manner;
- Apply this Policy consistently without fear or favour;
- Recognise and enforce any penalty imposed under this Policy;
- Ensure that a copy of this Policy is available or accessible to the persons to whom this Policy applies;
- Appoint or have access to appropriately trained people to receive and handle complaints and allegations and display the names and contact details in a way that is readily accessible; and
- Monitor and review this Policy at least annually

## 4. Individual Responsibilities

Individuals bound by this Policy are responsible for:

Making themselves aware of the Policy and complying with the standards of conduct outlined in this Policy.

- Consenting to a [National Police Check](#) if the individual holds or applies for a role that;
  - Involves direct and unsupervised contact with people under the age of 18 years
  - Involves working with people under the age of 18 years
  - Involves regular contact with people under the age of 18 years
- Complying with all other requirements of this Policy;
- Co-operating in providing a discrimination, child abuse and harassment free sporting environment;
- Understanding the possible consequences of breaching this Policy.

## Policy Position Statements

The Woodville Lacrosse Club is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people accessing our services. We support the rights of the child and will act without hesitation to ensure a child safe environment is maintained at all times. We also support the rights and wellbeing of our staff and volunteers and encourage their active participation in building and maintaining a secure environment for all participants.

The Woodville Lacrosse Club places the safety and welfare of children above all other considerations. The Woodville Lacrosse Club 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 or the Woodville Lacrosse Club representative.

All allegations of child abuse will be dealt with promptly, seriously, sensitively and confidentially. A person will not be victimised for reporting an allegation of child abuse and the privacy of all persons concerned will be respected.

Refer to our [procedures](#) for handling allegations of child abuse.

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.

## The Eight Steps – Snap Shot

### Step 1. Identify and analyse risk of harm.

- The Woodville Lacrosse Club requires all club coaches & managers to be screened, where there is contact with people under the age of 18 years.
- The Woodville Lacrosse Club are required to assess other areas of risk of harm.

### Step 2. Adopt and make accessible Woodville Lacrosse Club Child-Safe Policy.

- The Woodville Lacrosse Club will make available resources to display around the Club.

### Step 3. Adopt and apply to members the Woodville Lacrosse Club Code of Conduct for adults & children.

- Add to the Club's registration and enrolment forms.

### Step 4. Choose suitable volunteers.

- Follow Woodville Lacrosse Club screening requirements for all identified persons:
  - [National Police Check](#)
  - [Play by the Rules](#) online workshop - Child Protection: Coaches and Officials Course
  - Complete a [statutory declaration](#)
- Complete the Club Register.

### Step 5. Support, train and enhance performance.

- Establish a Child Safety Officer.
  - Training provided via the Office for Recreation and Sport.

### Step 6. Empower and promote the participation of children in decision-making.

- Involved children and young people where possible in decision making.

### Step 7. Report and respond appropriately to suspected abuse and neglect.

- Ensure club members are aware and have access to support material.

### Step 8. Complete the Club Declaration.

Reviewed 18 Feb 2023: Sue Hogan, Board Member

## Child Sex Offenders Registration Act 2006

The *Child Sex Offenders Registration Act 2006* (SA) was proclaimed on 18 October 2007. Under Section 65 of the Act, it is an offence for “registerable offenders” to work with, or apply to work with, children. The maximum penalty is imprisonment for 5 years.

In addition, under Section 66:

- A person who is engaged in child-related work must disclose a charge for a Class 1 or 2 Offence to their club within seven days after becoming aware of the filing of the charge or, if it is a charge pending.
- A person who applies to work in a position that is child-related, must disclose a charge for a Class 1 or 2 Offence to their respective club at either the time of application or, if they are charged while the application remains current, within seven days.

This section does not apply if the alleged offence occurred while the person was a child. In all cases, the person faces a fine of up to \$5,000 if they do not inform their club. Section 6 and Schedule 1 of the *Child Sex Offenders Registration Act 2006*: “Registerable Offender” and Class 1 and 2 Offences

A “registerable offender” is a person:

- Who has been sentenced for a Class 1 or Class 2 offence, or
- Who is, or has been, subject to a child sex offender registration order.

Class 1 and Class 2 offences are outlined in schedule 1 of the *Child Sex Offenders Registration Act 2006* and include sexual (or sexually-motivated) offences where the victim was a child.

Section 64(1) of the *Child Sex Offenders Registration Act 2006*: “Child-related work”

*Child-related work* means work involving contact with a child in connection to a variety of way. Relevant to Lacrosse are the following;

- Overnight camps regardless of the type of accommodation or of how many children are involved. Clubs, associations or movements including cultural, recreational or sporting nature) with significant child membership or involvement.
- Programs or events for children provided by any institution, agency or organisation.

Section 64(1) of the *Child Sex Offenders Registration Act 2006*: “Work”

*Work* means:

- Performance of work
  - Under a contract of employment or a contract for services (whether written or unwritten), or;
  - As a self-employed person or as a sub-contractor, or
  - As a minister of religion or as part of the duties of a religious or spiritual vocation,

or;

- Undertaking practical training as part of an educational or vocational course; or
- Performance of work as a volunteer including the performance of unpaid community work in accordance with an order of a court.

Section 64(1) of the *Child Sex Offenders Registration Act 2006*: “Engaged in child-related work”

A person is engaged in child-related work if he or she is:

- An officer of a body corporate that is engaged in *child-related work*, or
- A member of the committee of management of an unincorporated body or association that is engaged in child-related work, or
- A member of a partnership that is engaged in child-related work.