

Mooroopna Hockey Club

Child Safety Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct outlines appropriate standards of behaviour by adults towards children. For the purpose of this document, a child is considered to be any individual under 18 years of age, regardless of the team with which they participate.

The Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for abuse or harm to occur. It also helps staff and volunteers by providing them with guidance on how to best support children and how to avoid or better manage difficult situations. This Code of Conduct applies to all people involved in Mooroopna Hockey Club's activities, including coaches, officials, volunteers and parents.

All Mooroopna Hockey Club staff and volunteers are responsible for promoting the safety and wellbeing of children and young people by:

- Adhering to our Child Safe Policy, this Code of Conduct and other Mooroopna Hockey Club policies and guidelines, including the VicSport Guidelines for Physical Contact and Communication.
- Taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse
- Treating everyone with respect, including listening to and valuing their ideas and opinions
- Welcoming all children and their families and carers and being inclusive
- Respecting cultural, religious and political differences and acting in a culturally sensitive way, particularly when interacting with children who are Aboriginal or otherwise culturally or linguistically diverse and those with a disability
- Modelling appropriate adult behaviour, including using appropriate language when talking to, and in the vicinity of, children
- Listening to children and responding to them appropriately
- Reporting and acting on any breaches of this Code of Conduct, complaints or concerns appropriately and treat them seriously and with respect.
- Complying with our guidelines on physical contact with children
- Working with children in an open and transparent way – other adults should always know about the work you are doing with children
- Respecting the privacy of children and their families, and only disclosing information to people who have a need to know.

Mooroopna Hockey Club staff and volunteers **MUST NOT**:

- Seek to use children in any way to meet the needs of adults
- Ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse
- Use prejudice, oppressive behaviour or language with children
- Engage in rough physical games
- Discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability or sexuality
- Initiate unnecessary physical contact with children or do things of a personal nature that children can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes
- Develop 'special' relationships with specific children or show favouritism through the provision of gifts or inappropriate attention
- Exchange personal contact details such as phone number, social networking site or email addresses with children except to the extent that this information is being used for logistical purposes and where the parents/ guardians of the child have given permission for this to occur.
- Have unauthorised contact with children and young people online or by phone.

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to Mooroopna Hockey Club Child Safety Persons Ali Ritchie and James Sach.

This Code of Conduct will be reviewed by Mooroopna Hockey Club Committee annually.

I have read this Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it at all times.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Role: _____

Date: _____