



100 YEARS STRONG

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Canterbury Lions Football Club's (CLFC) are dedicated to ensuring that all children, young people, and vulnerable adults who participate in our club are safe from harm and treated with dignity and respect. We aim to foster a positive and inclusive environment where everyone can enjoy football and participate in activities free from abuse, neglect, or exploitation. This policy outlines our approach to safeguarding and protection, detailing the steps we take to promote the safety and wellbeing of all members and respond appropriately to any concerns.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all members, committee members, coaches, volunteers, and anyone involved in CLFC's activities, particularly those involving children, young people, and vulnerable adults under our care.

SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children, young people, and vulnerable adults have the right to protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- We will create a safe and welcoming environment for all participants.
- We will promote positive behaviour and respect within the club.
- We will ensure that all adults in the club receive appropriate training and know their responsibilities in safeguarding children and vulnerable individuals.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND ROLES

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

CLFC will appoint a DSO responsible for safeguarding and child protection issues. The DSO will ensure the club follows best practices and acts as the first point of contact for any safeguarding concerns. Always display polite conduct towards these officials.

Members and Volunteers

All committee members, coaches, and volunteers must adhere to safeguarding policies, report concerns, and ensure participants' safety. Regular training will be provided to raise awareness of safeguarding issues.

Parents and Guardians

We encourage parents and guardians to engage with the club's safeguarding practices, communicate concerns, and collaborate with us to ensure their children's safety.

CODES OF CONDUCT

To promote safety, CLFC will enforce a strict code of conduct for all committee members, volunteers, players, and parents, which includes, but is not limited to:

Respect and Inclusion

Treat all players, committee members, and volunteers with dignity and respect.

No Bullying or Harassment

Bullying, harassment, or discrimination will not be tolerated.



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Physical Contact

Any physical contact between coaches and players should be appropriate and justifiable in the context of the sport. Unnecessary or inappropriate physical contact is prohibited.

Confidentiality

All personal information, including medical details or concerns shared by children and their families, will be treated confidentially and following data protection laws.

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

CLFC is committed to safe recruitment practices. All committee members, volunteers and anyone with regular contact with children or vulnerable adults will:

- Undergo background checks
- Complete safeguarding training as part of their induction and ongoing development.
- Receive clear guidance on their responsibilities and the reporting procedures for any concerns.

REPORTING AND RESPONDING TO CONCERNS

If there are any concerns about the safety or welfare of a child or vulnerable adult, the following steps must be followed:

Immediate Action

If a child is at immediate risk of harm, contact the relevant authorities (such as local child protection services or the police) immediately.

Reporting

Concerns or disclosures of abuse should be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Officer, who will investigate the issue confidentially and follow appropriate procedures.

Confidentiality

All safeguarding concerns will be treated confidentially. However, there may be instances where it is necessary to share information with relevant authorities to protect the child or vulnerable individual.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

CLFC will provide safeguarding training for all coaches, committee members, and volunteers so that they can recognise signs of abuse, understand their responsibilities, and respond to concerns appropriately. The training will be updated regularly, and all members will be encouraged to stay informed about best practices in safeguarding.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner, if necessary, to ensure it remains effective and up to date. Feedback from committee members, volunteers, and parents will be an integral part of the review process.



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CONTACT DETAILS

For any safeguarding concerns, please do not hesitate to contact:

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

Mayoor Thievendram

0410 863 776

mayoort@hotmail.com

or to report an issue, please do not hesitate to contact:

Club Secretary

Bridget Carson

0458 290 528

secretary@canterburylionsfc.com.au

Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) Child Protection Helpline

132 111

NSW Police

02 9797 4099