



100 YEARS STRONG

RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

This Risk Management Policy outlines the principles, processes, and procedures for managing risks within Canterbury Lions Football Club (CLFC). Its primary aim is to foster a safe, supportive, and respectful environment for all members, including children and young people while ensuring their safety and well-being according to the relevant laws and regulations of New South Wales (NSW).

This policy also incorporates the Child Safe Risk Management Plan (CSRMP), which explicitly addresses managing risk for children and young people involved in CLFC activities.

SCOPE

This policy covers all types of risks that may impact CLFC's operations, including but not limited to:

Child Safety	abuse, neglect, bullying
Health and Safety	injuries during games or training
Operational	financial, committee members, volunteers, and compliance
Reputational	damage to the club's image
Environmental	unsafe playing surfaces, weather conditions
Legal and Compliance	noncompliance with legislation

This policy applies to:

Members	Committee Members	Volunteers	Coaches
Team Leads	Parents / Guardians	Spectators	Officials

RISK MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

CLFC is dedicated to creating a safe environment for all participants by following these fundamental principles:

Identify

Systematically identifying risks related to child safety, health and safety, and other operational areas.

Assess

Evaluating the likelihood and the potential impact of identified risks on the club and its members, focusing on risks to children.

Control

Implementing appropriate strategies to mitigate or eliminate risks, ensuring adequate controls are in place.

Monitor

Regularly reviewing and monitoring risks and controls to ensure they remain effective.

Review

Continuously reviewing this policy and the associated risk management plans, including the Child Safe Risk Management Plan to ensure that CLFC meets its legal obligations and upholds best practice standards.



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ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

CLFC Committee and Management

- Ensure the overall risk management framework is implemented and maintained.
- Ensure this policy aligns with current NSW laws and regulations related to child protection and general risk management.
- Oversee the implementation of the Child Safe Risk Management Plan and monitor its effectiveness.
- Ensure the club meets its duty of care to all members, particularly children and vulnerable individuals.

Coaches, Team Leaders, and Officials

- Promote a culture of safety and respect by adhering to the club's Code of Conduct.
- Implement child-safe practices during training, matches, and club activities.
- Report any harm or suspected abuse incidents immediately to the Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) or the designated child protection authority.

Members and Volunteers

- Adhere to all policies and procedures related to safety and risk management.
- Report any concerns regarding child safety, harassment, bullying, or general safety issues to the appropriate club personnel.

Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO)

- Serve as a confidential point of contact for members regarding child safety, bullying, or discrimination issues.
- Provide advice and support for reporting child safety risks or complaints.
- Ensure the effective implementation and regular review of the Child Safe Risk Management Plan.

Parents / Guardians

- Support the club's commitment to a safe and child-friendly environment.
- Encourage children to report issues and communicate concerns to the club.

CHILD SAFE RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN INTEGRATION

As part of its broader Risk Management Policy, CLFC has developed a Child Safe Risk Management Plan to address the risks associated with children and young people in the club's activities. This plan focuses on the identification, assessment, and management of risks related to:

- Child abuse and neglect
- Bullying and harassment
- Unsafe physical environments
- Inappropriate adult behaviours or misconduct
- Access to age-appropriate facilities and resources

The plan outlines detailed procedures for managing these risks, which include:

Screening and Recruitment

All committee members and volunteers who work with children must undergo background checks and complete child protection training.



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Training and Education

Coaches, committee members, and volunteers will receive regular child protection training to recognise signs of abuse and bullying and understand reporting procedures.

Supervision and Monitoring

Maintaining appropriate adult to child ratios during activities and conducting regular monitoring to ensure the safety of children.

Reporting and Response

Establishing clear procedures for reporting child protection concerns or allegations, including processes for immediate action, investigation, and follow-up.

This comprehensive approach aims to create a safe environment for all children and young people involved in CLFC activities.

RISK ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL STRATEGIES

To minimise the identified risks, CLFC will implement the following control strategies:

Child Safety Procedures

All individuals working with children must complete child protection training and be familiar with the Child Safe Risk Management Plan.

Health and Safety Procedures

Safe sporting practices will be implemented, including first aid training for coaches and ensuring access to medical equipment during activities.

Code of Conduct

All members, including players and volunteers, must adhere to CLFC's Code of Conduct, which sets clear expectations for behaviour and outlines the consequences for any breaches.

Monitoring and Reporting

Regular audits of club activities, facilities, and programs will be conducted to identify new or emerging risks. All incidents and accidents will be documented and investigated promptly.

Incident Reporting

All incidents, accidents, or safety concerns (including child protection issues) must be reported immediately to the MPIO or the CLFC Secretary. If necessary, a formal investigation will be initiated.

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

CLFC is committed to complying with relevant laws and regulations in New South Wales (NSW), including the following:

NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1997

Prohibits harassment or discrimination based on age, race, gender, or disability.

NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011

This legislation requires CLFC to maintain a safe working and playing environments for all members, with particular emphasis on the safety of children.

NSW Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012



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This act mandates that individuals working with children must undergo Working with Children Checks (WWCC) and receive appropriate training in child protection procedures.

NSW Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998

This legislation outlines the mandatory reporting requirements for suspected child abuse or neglect.

By adhering to these laws, CLFC ensures the safety and wellbeing of all its members, particularly the vulnerable.

REVIEW AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

CLFC is dedicated to continuously improving its risk management practices. The policy and the Child Safe Risk Management Plan will be reviewed regularly, at least once a year, or after any significant incidents or changes in legislation. Feedback from members, parents, and stakeholders will be utilised to enhance the club's risk management and child protection practices.

RESOURCES

[NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1997](#)

[NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011](#)

[NSW Child Protection \(Working with Children\) Act 2012](#)

[NSW Children and Young Persons \(Care and Protection\) Act 1998](#)

[NSW Department of Communities and Justice – Child Protection](#)

[National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020](#)