

South Australian Ice Skating Association Incorporated

Child Safe Environment Policy

Authority: SAISA Inc Board

Purpose

This policy was written to demonstrate the strong commitment SAISA has to promoting the interests, safety and well-being of children and young people by establishing and maintaining child safe and child friendly environments.

Context

SAISA has lodged a Child Safe Environments Compliance Statement with the Department of Education and Child Development (DECD) to meet the requirements of the *Children's Protection Act 1993*.

Scope

Everyone involved with SAISA, its affiliated clubs, committees and activities are responsible for the care and protection of children and young people less than 18 years of age. This includes reporting information about any form of suspected child abuse to the relevant authority or agency.

As such, this policy applies to all members, parents, guardians and caregivers, coaches, team managers, volunteers, officials.

Commitment to child safety

All children and young people who come to SAISA have a right to feel and be safe. SAISA aims to create a child safe and child friendly environment where all children and young people are respected, valued and encouraged to reach their full potential. The safety and well-being of all children and young people accessing our services will always be our first priority.

This means that SAISA will:

- Take a proactive stance on child protection issues;
- Value the opinions and views of children and young people;
- Assist children and young people to build skills that will assist them to participate in society;
- Focus on the protection of children and young people and take appropriate action to protect them from harm;
- Provide policies for its members to follow.

Code of Conduct

All members are made aware of, and must abide by, the SAISA Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct was adapted from a model framework produced by the SA Government in consultation with a number of sporting and recreational bodies and addresses the concerns raised by children and young people, volunteers, parents and coaches who use SAISA services.

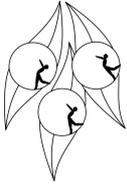
The SAISA Code of Conduct can be found here: <http://saisa.org.au/default.asp?id=346>

Children and young people's participation

Children and young people or their families are encouraged to express their views, concerns and make suggestions regarding child safe environments. Wherever possible SAISA will act on matters raised.

Recruitment practices

SAISA presently has no employees.



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SAISA takes all reasonable steps to ensure its volunteers are suitable and appropriate people to work with children.

Coaches who are accredited and are current financial members of their professional body, APSA (Australian Professional Skaters Association), have police checks and working with children clearance as required by APSA.

National Police Certificate (Police check)

SAISA Officials, affiliated Club committee members and officials may apply for a National Police Certificate via SAISA. SAISA has a Volunteer Organisation Authorisation Number (VOAN).

Further information:

<https://www.police.sa.gov.au/services-and-events/apply-for-a-police-record-check>

Risk assessment

Risk assessments are made by SAISA and take note of input from all users of SAISA services.

A typical risk assessment:

- Identifies what could go wrong;
- Ranks the likelihood of the risk occurring;
- Ranks the impact of the risk;
- Identifies ways to mitigate the risk.

Reporting suspected child abuse and neglect

SAISA officials and volunteers may be mandated notifiers and required by law to report any suspicions of child abuse and neglect.

For more information see the sa.gov.au 'report child abuse' page:

<http://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/health-wellbeing-and-special-needs/report-child-abuse/report-child-abuse>

Breaches of the child safe policy

Breaches are dealt with using the processes of the Member Protection Policy and Grievance Procedure.

See SAISA website Policies page: <http://saisa.org.au/default.asp?id=288>

Harassment/Bullying

SAISA opposes all forms of harassment, discrimination and bullying. These matters are taken seriously and anyone who believes they have been, or another person has been harassed, discriminated against or bullied is encourage to raise this matter with SAISA. See Grievance Procedure: <http://saisa.org.au/default.asp?id=337>

Education

If you would like to complete a Child Safety online course or become a Child Safety Officer please visit the "Play by the Rules" website to start your free training. The Office for Recreation & Sport (ORS) runs free Child Safe Officers Courses throughout the year. See: <http://ors.sa.gov.au/>

For further information go to: <https://www.playbytherules.net.au/>

For further information on Child Safe Environments Compliance go to:

<https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/child-protection/child-safe-environments>