

Child Safe Environments Policy

Procedure developed by: Jen Kay

Approved by: Fleurieu Equestrian Clubs Committee

Date: 12/08/2020

Next review due: 12/08/2023

Summary	<p>This policy was written to demonstrate the strong commitment of our organisation to the safety of children and young people and establishing and maintaining child safe and child friendly environments.</p> <p>This policy should be read in conjunction with the Equestrian South Australia Child Protection Risk Management Policy</p>
Policy reference	<p><u>Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017</u> <u>Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016</u> <u>Equestrian South Australia Child Protection Risk Management Policy</u></p>
Applies to	<p>This policy applies to everyone involved in the club including committee members, instructors, volunteers, riders, parents and spectators.</p>

Version: 1.0 -

supersedes Member Protection Policy (incorporating Child Protection and Child Safe Policy)

Fleurieu Equestrian Clubs Inc
Yankalilla District Equestrian Club
Fleurieu Horse & Pony Club

Policy description: Child safe environments are safe and friendly settings where children feel respected valued and encouraged to reach their full potential. This policy shows how the Fleurieu Equestrian Clubs Inc. is committed to promoting and protecting the interests and safety of children. We have zero tolerance for child abuse.

Areas of responsibility: All committee members, volunteers and coaches at FEC are responsible for the care and protection of children and reporting information about child abuse. The FEC Committee has ultimate responsibility for the detection and prevention of child abuse and is responsible for ensuring that appropriate and effective internal control systems are in place.

Definitions: Terms used in this document and other supporting information can be referenced in the Equestrian South Australia Child Protection Risk Management Policy.

Policy details:

The Fleurieu Equestrian Clubs (FEC) will take a preventative, proactive and participatory stance on **child protection issues**. We will

- ensure our **risk management plans** includes a review of existing child protection practices, to determine how child-safe and child-friendly the organisation is and to determine what additional strategies are required to minimise and prevent risk of harm to children
- develop and disseminate a **code of conduct document** for club members to ensure expected behaviour and responsibilities are clearly understood
- focus on the protection of children and young people and take action to protect them from harm through the **appointment of a club Child Safe Officer**.

As required by legislation FEC will lodge a **Child safe environments compliance statement** and re-lodge a compliance statement after any changes to policies and procedures. A copy of the compliance statement will be tabled, annually, at a committee meeting and made available to any club members wishing to view the documents.

The FEC will **value and embrace the opinions and views of children and young people** by encouraging a young rider representative onto the management committee to represent the interests of other young members and participate in the decision making process.

Working with children check scheme

People working or volunteering with children in South Australia must, by law, have a Working with Children Check carried out by the South Australian Department of Human Services (DHS) Screening unit. At a minimum **all committee members and club coaches/any one supervising riders**, are required to have a current check. External coaches will be asked for proof that they have a current check. A working with children check **register will be kept and reviewed** each financial year after the AGM. The committee may ask that parents/guardians taking responsibility for children, other than their own, also undertake a working with children check.

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Monitoring compliance and breaches

A procedure for reporting a suspicion that a child or young person is, or may be, at risk and a procedure for dealing with breaches of your child safe environments policy will be developed. The club Child Safe Officer will ensure that all procedures meet legislative requirements.

Dissemination of policy: Policy documents will be made available to club members via the website. www.ydec.com.au. Promotion of procedures will also be undertaken via social media.

References:

[Equestrian South Australia Child Protection Risk Management Policy](#)

Working with Children Check Guidelines

<https://screening.sa.gov.au/about-checks/legislation/working-with-children-check-guideline>