

CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARD POLICY



Yurauna Gymnastics Academy

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

1. Introduction

Yurauna Gymnastics Academy is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children and young people involved in our activities. We recognise our duty of care and responsibility to safeguard children from harm, abuse, and exploitation. This policy outlines the framework through which we ensure a safe environment for all participants.

2. Policy Statement

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children and young people have an equal right to protection from harm, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, sexual orientation, or identity.
- We will take all necessary steps to promote the welfare of children and to prevent abuse or harm.
- We will work in partnership with children, parents, and external agencies to ensure safeguarding best practices.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all staff, coaches, volunteers, parents, and participants involved in Yurauna Gymnastics Academy. It covers all club activities, both on-site and off-site, including training sessions, competitions, and events.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO):** A designated individual responsible for overseeing child protection within the club, handling concerns, and liaising with external safeguarding agencies. This can also be known as the Manager.
- **Coaches and Volunteers:** Must be always trained in child safeguarding procedures and act in the best interest of children, reporting any concerns immediately.
- **Parents and Guardians:** Expected to support the club's child safeguarding measures and report any concerns promptly.
- **Children and Young People:** Encouraged to speak up about any concerns or issues they experience.

5. Code of Conduct

All club members, staff, and volunteers must adhere to the following:

- Always act in the best interest of children.

- Maintain professional boundaries and avoid inappropriate behaviour, contact and relationships.
- Report any safeguarding concerns promptly to the CSO and/or Manager.
- Never tolerate bullying, harassment, or discrimination.
- Follow club policies on social media and communication with young participants.

6. Recognising and Responding to Abuse

Types of abuse include:

- **Physical abuse** – hitting, shaking, or causing physical harm.
- **Emotional abuse** – persistent emotional maltreatment that affects a child’s well-being.
- **Sexual abuse** – involving a child in sexual activities.
- **Neglect** – failing to meet a child’s basic needs, including supervision, food, or medical care.

If a child discloses abuse or you suspect abuse:

- Listen carefully, reassure them, and take their concerns seriously.
- Do not investigate but report concerns to the CSO and/or Manager immediately.
- Keep information confidential and only share on a need-to-know basis.

7. Reporting Procedures

- Any concerns should be reported to the CSO and/or Manager as soon as possible.
- If the CSO is unavailable, concerns should be reported to the appropriate local child safeguarding authorities or the police in emergencies.
- The CSO and/or Manager will follow established procedures to assess and address concerns in line with national child safeguarding guidelines.

8. Safer Recruitment

- All staff, coaches, and volunteers over the age of 18 must hold a valid Employee Working with Children Check / Blue Card.
- All coaches must complete child safeguarding and Community Coaching certificates before working with children.

9. Training and Awareness

- All staff, volunteers and coaches must complete child safeguarding training every two years.
- The club will provide regular updates and refresher training on child safeguarding policies and procedures via team meetings and ongoing training.

10. Confidentiality and Data Protection

- All records of child safeguarding concerns will be stored securely and only shared with authorised individuals.
- Information will be handled in accordance with relevant data protection laws.

11. Monitoring and Policy Review

- This policy will be reviewed annually or when legislation changes.
- Regular feedback from children, parents, and staff will be sought to improve child safeguarding measures.

12. Contacts

- **Club Safeguarding Officer / Manager:** Rickie-lea Linnett
- **Child Safeguard Australia**
T: (02) 9252 3198
Website: www.childsafeguard.com.au
- **Kids Helpline:** 1800 551 800
- **Police (Emergency):** 000

This policy is endorsed by the club’s management and will be upheld by all members of Yurauna Gymnastics Academy.

Date: 01/03/2026

Signed: Rickie-lea Linnett

Position: Owner