



## **MUDGE TRIATHLON CLUB**

### **CHILD SAFETY & PROTECTION GUIDELINES**

Mudgee Triathlon Club is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all Children/Young People that are involved in our sport. The Working with Children Handbook has been written in collaboration with the Office of Children's Guardian and is endorsed by Aus Triathlon and NSW Triathlon.

The Aus Triathlon policy entitled 'Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy' is the overarching policy which covers NSW Triathlon clubs and members. The full document is on the Aus Triathlon website: Integrity – Aus Triathlon

Mudgee Triathlon Club (MTC) as part of NSW triathlon to have an obligation to have Child Safe Policy (CSP). MTC operate under the Triathlon Australia Member Protection Policy and The Ten Child Safe Standards provided outlined by the NSW Government Office of the Children's Guardian. Aus Tri CSP has been developed to identify and prevent behaviour that may be harmful to the young people in our sport. Their full policy is available on the AUS TRIATHLON website, under [National Integrity Framework Child and Young People Safeguarding Policy](#).

#### **COMMITMENT**

MTC takes the safety of all junior athletes within the club seriously. This document sets out the protocols in place to ensure a safe, positive, and inclusive environment for our junior athletes. MTC has a zero-tolerance position on child abuse and any concerns or allegations will be investigated according to this policy. MTC values and welcomes the input of children and their parents/guardians/carers in developing policies that affect them. Upholding this policy is the responsibility of all MTC members.

#### **WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK: WWCC**

In NSW, laws require individuals involved in sport and recreation to undertake a check to determine their suitability to work (in a paid or volunteer capacity) with children.

- Child safe representatives and the President of MTC are required to have a WWCC
- All coaches are required to have a current WWCC
- Volunteer parents are not required to have WWCC.
- See table for the requirements for different personnel who have regular direct contact.

Child Safe Representatives, President of MTC and all paid coaches will undertake the 5 modules of Child Safe Sport eLearning. [eLearning | Office of the Children's Guardian \(nsw.gov.au\)](#).

- Accredited coaches undertake further education as part of their coaching accreditation.
- Volunteer parents will undertake module 1 of this.
- To ensure the highest possible standard of child safety all committee members are required to complete module 1
- It is strongly recommended that all club members are fully aware of their responsibility, regardless of their role

For any members wishing to understand more regarding child protection these eLearning modules are free and available to anyone on the Office of Children's Guardian. [eLearning | Office of the Children's Guardian \(nsw.gov.au\)](#).

- At MTC events, where junior athletes are in the same environment as adult club members, they are under the care of a supervising parent/carer, until the completion of the event.
- At all external (non-club run) events, where a junior athlete is competing as part of MTC they will be required to be always supervised and in the care of a parent/carer or arrangements made with the coaching team for supervision.
- All members of the coaching team are required to have current first aid and CPR certifications and to have a first aid kit accessible at training sessions
- Coaches to have professional boundaries and give only positive guidance.
- Any coaches are required to complete and submit to the MTC Club President an accident or incident report for any situations that occur at training sessions. These reports can be utilised as part of the annual policy review and risk assessment process
- If a parent or junior athlete has a concern regarding any individual or would like to make recommendations, these can be submitted to the MTC president.
- All online activities involving junior members are conducted in an appropriate manner ensuring there is no unsolicited contact with children, nor any unsolicited photos or videos taken.

- Take all reasonable steps to protect children from physical, emotional or sexual abuse.
- All members, volunteers, families and community members are encouraged to speak up if they have concerns about the safety of children. Complaints about a breach of this Policy must be reported.

**I understand the following types of behaviour may be of concern:**

- Being alone with a child when there is no professional reason for doing so
- Showing favour to one child over others
- Encourage a child to communicate with me in a private setting in person or any on - line activities.
- Mentoring and/or tutoring a child out of planned events without parental or committee knowledge
- Use hurtful, discriminatory or offensive behaviour or language with children
- Ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse.
- Persistently criticise and/or denigrate a child or create a climate of fear.

The laws and regulations on this topic are constantly changing, so for further information or questions, you are encouraged to read this website:

<https://www.ocg.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>

**PLEASE NOTE:**

An adult in child-related work in an organisation will commit an offence if they know another adult there poses a serious risk of abusing a child (under 18 years), and they have the power to reduce or remove the risk, and they negligently fail to do so.

All adults in NSW are required to report information to police if they know, believe or reasonably ought to know that a child (under 18 years) has been abused.

This document is reviewed as part of MTC's annual policy review and risk assessment protocol and may be updated to reflect new laws and or requirements around child safety and protection. This will be done at our annual general meeting every year.

Reviewed and endorsed by the MTC Committee Members,

DATE: 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024.