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'PLAY BY THE RULES' FOR PLAY SAFE BEHAVIOUR IN SPORT – Adapted from publication issued by Office for Recreation and Sport

Everyone in our Club:

Is committed to promoting kids' wellbeing and protecting them from harm

Every child and young person has the right to join a club confident that they will be supported and protected. A good club will have policies and procedures in place to encourage this and all members will be aware of and have access to these documents.

Behaves according to our club's code of conduct

All parents, players, officials and administrators are required to read and thoroughly familiarise themselves with the club's Code of Conduct. These are the guidelines by which all members are bound.

Is always on the lookout for potential risks to the safety of our young people

Knows how to respond to and report behaviours that threaten or are harmful to children

If you are suspicious that a child has been abused or neglected, or is at risk of that occurring then contact *Child Abuse Report line* on 13 14 78.

The people who run our Club ensure:

Our Club rules promote the wellbeing and safety of kids

Management is responsible for ensuring that the Club has a current Member Protection Policy incorporating a Child-Safe Policy. The Club must also have a clear code of conduct that is freely available to all members.

All reasonable steps are taken to ensure coaches, officials and volunteers are suitable to work with young people

The Club needs to be aware of the training available for all who work with our young people. This may involve coaching qualifications, child-safe training, Play by the Rules online training and building awareness of all Club policies and procedures. All volunteers should receive appropriate induction.

Our young people can get involved in helping to keep our club child-safe and child-friendly Everyone in our club knows about our child-safe rules and policies and where to find them

Please note that all Burnside Hockey Club (BHC) members are treated in a fair and equitable way, irrespective of their sex, race, marital status, origin, beliefs on matters such as religion and politics, disability, sexual preference, age or carers responsibilities.

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Dealing with child abuse:

Everyone at Burnside Hockey Club has a responsibility to care for and protect all children who participate in its activities.

Report any form of abuse or behaviour that concerns you. Remember this includes verbal and emotional abuse or neglect.

Be caring and understanding towards the child.

Show you believe what the child says even if you find the information uncomfortable.

Reassure the child you are pleased they have shared this with you.

Phone the Child Abuse Report line on 13 14 78.

Reporting abuse and neglect:

Mandated notifiers

The *Child Protection Act 1993* makes it a legal requirement for certain people to report a reasonable suspicion of incidences of abuse or neglect. This obligation is known as mandatory notification and a penalty may stem from an individual's failure to comply. Notifications must be made to the *Families SA Child Abuse Report Line on 13 14 78*

Reasonable grounds may include:

A disclosure of abuse by a child

Professional judgement, based on the notifier's experience and observations

Disclosure by a child or an adult that a child is being abused or is at risk

Definition

Mandated notifiers are a volunteer in a non-government that provides sporting services wholly or partly for children.

These people:

Are engaged in the actual delivery of those services to children; or

Hold a management position in the relevant organisation.

Volunteers of sporting bodies who work with children fit these descriptions and so have a legal obligation (are mandated) to report any suspected child abuse and/or neglect.

Training is not as requirement but it is recommended that each Club has a trained child safe officer. Burnside Hockey Club has Sarah Streoher and Warren Murphy as Child Safe Officers.

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It is illegal for any person to prevent another person from making a report or treat them badly for having made a report.

Club responsibilities

Burnside Hockey Club has a duty of care to take all reasonable steps to protect children from harm. The *Children's Protection Act 1993* requires Burnside Hockey Club to conduct a relevant assessment for each volunteer who holds a prescribed position. Burnside Hockey Club requires each volunteer to have a National Police Check.

Child Safe policies and procedures

Hockey SA has lodged on Burnside Hockey Club's behalf, a child safe environment compliance statement with Families SA.

Principles of good practice

Principle 1

Identify and analyse risk of harm

Burnside Hockey Club has a risk management strategy that identifies, assesses and takes steps to minimise the risk of harm to children because of the actions or inaction of any employee, volunteer or other child.

Principle 2

Develop a clear and accessible Child-Safe Policy.

Burnside Hockey Club has a Child-Safe Policy that outlines its commitment to promoting children's wellbeing and safeguarding them from harm.

Principle 3

Develop codes of conduct for adults and children.

Burnside Hockey Club has developed a Code of Conduct which specifies standards of behaviour and care when dealing and interacting with children. The Code also describes appropriate behaviour between children. The *Office for Recreation and Sport* provides code of conduct templates on its website:

www.ors.sa.gov.au.

Principle 4

Choose suitable employees and volunteers

All reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that your club engages the most suitable and appropriate people to work and volunteer with children.

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Principle 5
Support, train, supervise and enhance performance

Principle 6
*Empower and promote participation by children in decision-making and service development
Burnside Hockey Club should promote the involvement and participation of children and young people in developing and maintaining child-safe environments. It must ensure that children know what constitutes appropriate behaviour and when and how to speak out if they feel uncomfortable.*

Principle 7
*Report and respond appropriately to suspected abuse and neglect
Includes knowing how to report and respond to allegations of abuse and neglect.*

It is important that Burnside Hockey Club ensures that all employees and volunteers who are Mandated Notifiers under the Children's Protection 1993 are aware of their status and understand their responsibilities.

Burnside Hockey Club policies which support commitment to the above statements "Play by the Rules" include:

1. Codes of Behaviour
2. Communication Policy
3. Including People with Disability
4. Picking-up and Dropping-off Children
5. Spectator Behaviour
6. Team Selection Policy – Junior Grades (*currently being reviewed*)

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