



Lacrosse in Australia Child Safety Resource Pack

For Parents

Participation in sport should be safe for all. We are committed to ensuring that people in sport, including children, are treated with respect dignity and are protected from bullying, discrimination, harassment or abuse. This information pack has been put together to provide information and resources to parents to ensure they are aware of children’s rights in sport, know where to go if a child is unsafe or needs support and outlines roles and expectations of people involved in the National Events.

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Lacrosse's Commitment

Lacrosse is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all Children that are involved in our sport. Our policies and procedures seek to address risks to child safety and to establish child safe culture and practices.

- Lacrosse is committed to keeping Children safe
- Lacrosse promotes equity and respect diversity
- Lacrosse staff and volunteers know the behaviour we expect
- Lacrosse minimises the likelihood of recruiting a person who is unsuitable
- Induction and training are part of our commitment
- Lacrosse encourages the involvement of Children and their parents
- Lacrosse staff and volunteers understand their responsibility for reporting child abuse
- Lacrosse maintains and improves our policies and practices

Lacrosse Policy & Code of Conduct

Member Protection	Child Safeguarding	Code of Conduct
Member Protection policy	Child Safeguarding policy	Child Safety Code of Conduct Player Code of Conduct Parent/guardian Code of Conduct Coach Code of Conduct

Lacrosse Policy Quick Facts:

The Child Safeguarding & Member Protection policy (provided above) highlight the important legal and governance responsibilities in relation to child safety in our sport. To help provide details regarding these policies we have provide a number of quick facts and further resource documents below:

Check out the following resources/documents below:

Regarding our policies:

- [Child Safeguarding Fact Sheet.](#)
- [Child safety - Do's and Don'ts](#)
- [Member Protection Fact Sheet](#)

Regarding signs of abuse

- [identifying signs of abuse or breaches](#) - Vic Gov
- [Signs of sexual abuse in teenagers](#) – raising Children website

Regarding how adults can support children

- [Helping Children to speak up and make a complaint](#) – National Office for Child Safety
- [Child safe organisations – Guide parents & Carers](#) – Australia Human Rights Commission
- [Physical Activity for pre-teens](#) – raising children website
- [Encouraging children to have a positive attitude](#) - raising children website
- [A guide to online bullying for parents and carers.](#) – safety commissioner



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Reporting an issue or breach of LA Policy or conduct:

If any child is at risk of immediate harm call 000.

If your child feels unsafe or feel that someone is not respecting their rights, your child and you can follow the steps in the below link to help address any safety concerns

[Responding and Reporting to a Breach of a Lacrosse Policy](#)

Complaint Handling Process

Once a complaint has been made to Sport Integrity Australia (SIA), SIA will then assess, investigate the matter and determine how disputes will be resolved and disciplinary action imposed.

- [Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy](#)
- [Complaints, Disputes and Discipline fact sheet](#)
- [Steps in complaint handling process](#)

Support Services for Children:

Kids Helpline	Provides confidential telephone and online counselling services to young people aged 5–25 years old for any reason.	1800 551 800 kidshelpline.com.au
Brave hearts	Information and Support Line Open to anyone wanting information, advice, referrals and support regarding child sexual assault.	1800 272 831 bravehearts.org.au
Lifeline	A generalist and crisis telephone counselling, information and referral service, provided by trained volunteers who are supported by professional staff. Online chat and text services are also available.	13 11 14 www.lifeline.org.au
eheadspace	A free and confidential telephone and online service for young people aged 12–25. Qualified youth mental health professionals provide support to young people worried about their mental health or experiencing issues such as depression, bullying and isolation. Support is also available to concerned parents or carers	1800 650 890 headspace.org.au/eheadspace
1800 RESPECT	A national sexual assault, family and domestic violence counselling line for anyone who has experienced, or is at risk of, physical or sexual violence. This service is designed to meet the needs of people with disabilities, Indigenous Australians, young people and individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Online counselling is also available.	1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732) www.1800respect.org.au



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Team Staff Checks & Education

All team staff are required to obtain and provide the State Lacrosse Organisation with current Working with Children Check details which are validated and stored for record keeping by the State Lacrosse Organisation.

As of the 11 of July 2022 Team Staff also will go through our detailed recruitment and Screening process outlined in the Child Safeguarding Policy.

Education

Team staff are required to complete the following education :

All Staff – within 12 months of appointment

- Sport Integrity Australia – Child safeguarding In sport Induction

The Child Safeguarding in Sport Induction course is for any person and any organisation who is bound by the Child Safeguarding policy. The course provides the foundation knowledge and education required to understand and implement the Child Safeguarding Policy.



Coaches

- [Lacrosse Australia Club Coach Accreditation](#)
- [ASC Community Coach Course](#)
- [Play by the Rule – Child Protection course](#)
- [Play by the Rule -Harassment and Discrimination Course](#)
- [Lacrosse Australia Coach Development Plans](#)
- [ASC Concussion Management Training](#)



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Roles & Responsibilities Regarding the Team

Peak Bodies Lacrosse Australia and Member Association Office Bearers:

As the peak bodies, Lacrosse Australia and Member Associations are responsible for all policies and procedures relating to the Team, Team personnel and the event. Peak Bodies may direct coaches and managers as required. MAs supports coaches so they may focus on the teams' preparation through training, conditioning, team management and completing mandatory education. A coach may be informed and must comply with any instructions that peak bodies deems necessary.

Peak bodies will ensure all teams are aware of, and will expect, all players, team personnel and player families to demonstrate the behaviours required to meet Lacrosse policies and Code of Conduct standards. Any person found to be in breach of these standards may be reported, investigated and could be removed from the team and event.

Team Manager

All Team Managers are expected to adhere to the LA Code of Conduct. Will demonstrate the utmost respect to every player and parent/guardian. The Team Manager will attend to the well-being and needs of all players in the lead up and during the event. Will communicate well and liaise with the coaches, players, parents/guardians and Lacrosse organisations. Communications will always include the parent and will not be via social media. The Team Manager is responsible for the coordination of travel, activities, bookings and other logistics related to the team. Team Manager will be familiar with and adhere to LA and MA policies and procedures.

Coaches

All coaches are expected to adhere to the LA Code of Conduct. Will demonstrate the utmost respect to every player and parent/guardian. Will focus on development and growth of players and team. Support players through their journey within the team. Seek support as required for both on field and off field matter via other team personnel or via your state Lacrosse Organisation. Will not communicate with players via social media and should never message or communication players individually without other individuals and or parent included.

Parents

All Parents are expected to adhere to the LA Code of Conduct. Understand the roles of each team staff appointment. Following the proper channels of communication via your Team Manager or Lacrosse Organisation. Will read and follow the communications provided by Team staff and/or Lacrosse Organisations.

Support your child by:

- getting them to training prepared and on time.
- Encouraging their child to accept responsibility for their development and performance.
- Supporting off field elements such as good nutrition and balanced approached to sport.
- Respecting opposition players, parents, officials, and coaches. Be a positive role model and adhere to the parents Code of Conduct.

Parents should notify the team manager or coach of and scheduling conflicts in advance and any Health or other issues concerning the player and performance.

Players

All players are expected to adhere to the Code of Conduct standards, as well as rules that are specific to their program. Players must abide by Coaches and Managers directions.

Players are expected to:

- Attend all trainings, and games. If they cannot make a session they must advise the coach in advance.
- Arrive for training on time, and ready to train, wearing shoes, equipment, ankle braces, with a full drink bottle, prior to the commencement of training.
- Respect their team mates, coaches, manager, parents, and officials, opponents and the game.
- Follow the coaches' instructions and challenges to develop their game and support the team.
- Accept new team strategies, team mates, training methods and try new playing positions with enthusiasm.
- Adhere to the Players Code of Conduct.
- Play by the Rules.



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