

Safeguarding Policy

Duty of Care

North Perth Dynamites Netball Club Safeguarding Children – Duty of Care Policy

Last reviewed on: 3 December 2025 **Reviewed by:** Junior 5-6 Coordinator

Next review date: 1 March 2026 **Approved by:** President

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all players, coaches, officials, and volunteers within the North Perth Dynamites Netball Club are provided with a safe and supportive environment. The Club is committed to upholding the highest standards of care, particularly for children and young people, and ensuring all activities are conducted safely and responsibly.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all players, coaches (including under-18 coaches), team managers, officials, parents, guardians, volunteers, and committee members participating in training sessions, matches, or other club-related activities.

3. Duty of Care for Players and Under-Age Officials

Some teams have coaches who are under 18 years of age. To ensure their safety and that of the players:

- A responsible adult must be physically present at all training sessions and games involving under-18 coaches.
- A parent roster will be established to ensure at least one parent is present at every training session.
- **The supervising adult will assume duty of care for both the players and any under 18 coach/es.**
- The supervising adult will assist with behaviour management when required.

4. Areas of Consideration for Coaches and Officials

4.1 Risk Management

Coaches are responsible for identifying and managing potential risks, (in the case of an under 18 coach the supervising adult is responsible with the assistance of the under 18 coach) by:

- Planning all activities and ensuring they are age-appropriate.
- Checking equipment and facilities for safety.
- Supervising all participants appropriately.
- Maintaining a child-safe environment at all times.
- Ensuring all children are supervised, including during toilet breaks and pick-up/drop-off times.
- Knowing who is present at all training sessions and their purpose for being there.

4.2 Supervision

Supervision must be constant, active, and diligent. Coaches, administrators, and officials must always:

- Be able to observe each child where possible.
- Respond to individual needs promptly.
- Intervene immediately if necessary.

If direct supervision is not possible, coaches/supervising adult must still know the location of each child, ensure they can communicate and respond quickly if needed, and avoid one-on-one, unsupervised contact with a child except in an emergency.

4.3 Use of Electronic or Online Communication

Electronic communication, such as email and messaging, is an essential part of coordinating Club activities and keeping teams informed. To protect the wellbeing and privacy of children and young people, the following guidelines apply to all electronic and online communications within Dynamites Netball Club:

- Parents or guardians may choose to be included in any one-on-one messages or emails between children and club representatives, or in group chat communications. If they prefer not to be included, they must provide consent for one-on-one communication and/or group chat participation to occur.
- Adults in positions of authority must not communicate one-on-one with a child via electronic or online means unless they are the child's parent, family member, legal guardian, or have received consent from the parent/guardian.
- Phone calls to or from an under-18 coach require prior permission from the parent or guardian.
- All communication must relate strictly to netball activities (e.g., training schedules, game times, or team logistics).
- Communication should always be brief, factual, and professional.
- Parents of players should avoid one-on-one electronic or online communication with an underage coach. Any questions or concerns can be directed to the relevant coordinator, who will assist with appropriate communication channels.

4.4 Transporting Children and Young People

Transporting children poses risks that require safeguarding:

- Adults must not transport children alone unless prior permission and safeguarding measures are in place.
- Any transportation must be directly related to club activities (e.g. travelling to training or matches).
- Parents should be informed of transport arrangements in advance.

4.5 Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures

To ensure child safety:

- Training and match start and finish times must be clearly communicated.
- Children must be supervised until collected by a parent/guardian or authorised adult.





Coaches and team managers should:

- Keep contact numbers readily available.
- Be aware of any alternative pick-up arrangements.
- Have a mobile phone available during all sessions.

5. References

This policy aligns with the following resources and guidelines:

Play by the Rules – Child Protection and Safeguarding Course

<https://www.playbytherules.net.au/online-courses/child-protection-and-safeguarding-course>

Sport Integrity Australia – Child Protection eLearning

<https://elearning.sportintegrity.gov.au/login/index.php>

Netball Australia – Safeguarding Children and Young People Course

<https://learning.netball.com.au/course/view.php?id=1670>

6. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually (at the beginning of the Winter Season) or as required to ensure it reflects current best practice and legislative requirements.

Approved by: North Perth Dynamites Netball Club Committee

Date: 2 December 2025

Next Review: 1 March 2026

