



Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron

CHILD SAFETY POLICY

2019

RQYS CHILD SAFETY POLICY

Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron is a “child friendly” environment with a variety of child and youth related events, activities and programs throughout the year and a large member base of children.

The Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron (“RQYS”) is committed to the safety and well-being of children and protecting them from harm while present on the Squadron’s grounds. This statement of commitment includes our sailing activities and special events involving children and young people.

The following values reflect and support the culture within the RQYS that we are committed to in promoting the safety and wellbeing of children and young people:

- We value the importance of a child’s or young person’s participation in decisions affecting them and take these decisions seriously;
- Our actions, intentions and efforts support a child safe environment;
- Each employee, volunteer, member, support staff and sailor treat each other with respect and promote being a good example. This means they will not tolerate bullying, abusive language or put downs.

The RQYS uses a variety of strategies to ensure we are a child safe organisation. These strategies include:

- Understanding the different types of child abuse and behaviours:
 - o Unacceptable Behaviour towards a child or young person
 - Physical or emotional Abuse
 - Inappropriate behaviour towards a child or young person
 - Neglect
 - Sexual abuse
- Assessing the risks associated with the variety of individuals that may be present at the Squadron at any given time and how they, in the execution of their roles, may have interactions with children and young people;
- Assessing the risks to identify and mitigate potential areas of risk to a child within the squadron’s environs;
- Once that assessment is done, ensuring that a Working with Children Check is undertaken for any group identified in the Risk Assessment process;
- Employees, coaches, support staff and volunteers have a high likelihood of being in close proximity to children, and have a high likelihood of interacting with children and young people as a part of their employment/volunteering role and therefore will be required to hold a Blue Card if they are over the age of 18;
- Have discussions about child safety as a part of our WHS meetings and training sessions;
- Informing employees, coaches, support staff and volunteers during inductions about the child safe policies and procedures of the organisation, including a definition within their role description of how this duty of care is executed and their mandatory/ethical reporting obligations for suspected child abuse and ensuring staff have a clear understanding of acceptable/ unacceptable behaviour;
- Developing guidelines and processes that clearly outline how to respond to child protection issues
- Implementing processes to respond to complaints of potential incidents of child abuse and having these processes available for children and parents.

Shawn Ket
General Manager