



**DRUIDS**  
**CRICKET CLUB**



# ***Procedure for Handling Allegations of Child Abuse***

**VERSION 1.0 March 2017**

## PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE

**If you believe a child is in immediate danger or a life-threatening situation, contact the Police immediately on 000.**

Fact sheets on reporting allegations of child abuse in different states and territories are available at [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au)

We will treat any allegation of child abuse or neglect promptly, seriously and with a high degree of sensitivity.

All people working with **Druids Cricket Club** in a paid or unpaid capacity have a duty to report any concerns to the appropriate authorities, following the steps outlined below.

### Step 1: Receive the allegation

If a child or young person raises with you an allegation of child abuse or neglect that relates to them or to another child, it is important that you listen, stay calm and be supportive.

| Do  | Don't   |
|---|---|
| Make sure you are clear about what the child has told you                         | Do not challenge or undermine the child   |
| Reassure the child that what has occurred is not his or her fault                 | Do not seek detailed information, ask leading questions or offer an opinion.              |
| Explain that other people may need to be told in order to stop what is happening. | Do not discuss the details with any person other than those detailed in these procedures. |
| Promptly and accurately record the discussion in writing.                         | Do not contact the alleged offender.  |

### Step 2: Report the allegation

- Immediately report any allegation of child abuse or neglect, or any situation involving a child at risk of harm, to the police and/or the relevant child protection agency. You may need to make a report to both.
- Contact the relevant child protection agency or police for advice if there is **any** doubt about whether the allegation should be reported.
- If the allegation involves a person to whom this policy applies, then also report the allegation to the **MPIO (Member Protection Information Officer)** of **Druids Cricket Club** so that he or she can manage the situation.

#### MPIO of Druids Cricket Club:

Gary TILTON  
0409 199 830  
[gary@arehl.com.au](mailto:gary@arehl.com.au)

Chris CAHILL  
0402 141 229  
[bubcahill@gmail.com](mailto:bubcahill@gmail.com)

**Step 3: Protect the child and manage the situation**

- The **MPIO (Member Protection Information Officer)** will assess the immediate risks to the child and take interim steps to ensure the child’s safety and the safety of any other children. This may include redeploying the alleged offender to a position where there is no unsupervised contact with children, supervising the alleged offender or removing/suspending him or her until any investigations have been concluded. Legal advice should be sought before any interim steps are made if the person is an employee of **Druids Cricket Club**.
- The **Druids Cricket Club** will consider what services may be most appropriate to support the child and his or her parent/s.
- The **Druids Cricket Club** will consider what support services may be appropriate for the alleged offender.
- The **Druids Cricket Club** will seek to put in place measures to protect the child and the alleged offender from possible victimisation and gossip.

**Step 4: Take internal action**

- At least three different investigations could be undertaken to examine allegations that are made against a person to whom this policy applies, including:
  - a criminal investigation (conducted by the police)
  - a child protection investigation (conducted by the relevant child protection agency)
  - a disciplinary or misconduct inquiry/investigation (conducted by **Druids Cricket Club**).
- **Druids Cricket Club** will assess the allegations and determine what action should be taken in the circumstances. Depending on the situation, action may include considering whether the alleged offender should return to his or her position, be dismissed, banned or suspended or face other disciplinary action.
- If disciplinary action is undertaken, we will follow the procedures set out in **Clause 10.3** of our Member Protection Policy.
- Where required we will provide the relevant government agency with a report of any disciplinary action we take.
- **Contact details for advice or to report an allegation of child abuse**

| <b>Victoria</b>   |   |
|---|---|
| Victoria Police<br>Non-urgent police assistance<br>Ph: (03) 9247 6666<br><a href="http://www.police.vic.gov.au">www.police.vic.gov.au</a> | Department of Human Services<br><a href="http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au">www.dhs.vic.gov.au</a><br>Ph: 131 278 |

**CONFIDENTIAL RECORD OF CHILD ABUSE ALLEGATION**

Before completing, ensure the procedures outlined in *Procedure for Handling Allegations of Child Abuse* have been followed and advice has been sought from the relevant government agency and/or police.

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Complainant's Name (if other than the child)  |  | Date Formal Complaint Received:    /    /  |
| Role/status in sport  |  |  |
| Child's name  |  | Age:   |
| Child's address   |  |  |
| Person's reason for suspecting abuse (e.g. observation, injury, disclosure)                                 |  |  |
| Name of person complained about   |  |  |
| Role/status in sport  | <input type="checkbox"/> Administrator (volunteer)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Athlete/player<br><input type="checkbox"/> Coach/Assistant Coach<br><input type="checkbox"/> Employee (paid)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Official | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent<br><input type="checkbox"/> Spectator<br><input type="checkbox"/> Support Personnel<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other<br>..... |
| Witnesses (if more than 3 witnesses, attach details to this form)   | Name (1):<br>Contact details:<br>Name (2):<br>Contact details:<br>Name (3):<br>Contact details:  |  |
| Interim action (if any) taken (to ensure child's safety and/or to support needs of person complained about) |  |  |
| Police contacted  | Who:<br>When:<br>Advice provided:  |  |

|   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Government agency contacted                   | Who:<br>When:<br>Advice provided:    |
| MPIO contacted                                | Who:<br>When:                        |
| Police and/or government agency investigation | Finding:                             |
| Internal investigation (if any)               | Finding:                             |
| Action taken                                  |                                      |
| Completed by                                  | Name:<br>Position:<br>Signature: / / |
| Signed by                                     | Complainant (if not a child)         |

This record and any notes must be kept in a confidential and safe place and provided to the relevant authorities (police and government) should they require them.