



Child Safety

Norths Commitment to Child Safety

Northern Suburbs Cricket Club (Norths) has been nestled on the banks of the Hunter River at Lorn Park since 1903. It has a large member base and a dedicated group of volunteers steering the club's strong club culture and maintaining its traditions.

Norths has a strong commitment to the development of junior players. Each season, Norths fields numerous junior teams and runs programmes for younger aged members to introduce them to the skills required to play cricket. Norths also encourages the development and participation of junior players into the senior grades.

Paramount in the development of Norths' junior players is a commitment to safeguarding those junior players.

To ensure junior players can participate in cricket in a safe and supportive environment, Norths has developed this package for coaches, managers and other members of the club who will be involved with and develop relationships with junior players.

Cricket Australia's Framework for the Safeguarding of Children

<https://www.cricketaustralia.com.au/about/safeguarding/safeguarding-kids>

Cricket Australia has developed policies, codes of behaviour and other resources to assist clubs implement a child safe environment. It is important that coaches, managers, and other members of the club who will be involved with junior players make themselves aware of these documents and their requirements.

Important Documents to make yourself familiar with are:

- Australia Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children and Young People
- Australian Cricket's Commitment to Safeguarding Children and Young People
- Australian Cricket's 'Looking After Our Kids' Code of Behaviour for Affiliated Associations and Clubs

Requirements for Involvement with Children and Young People

To be involved with children and young people at Norths you MUST:

Expression of Interest

Complete our Expression of Interest Form attached to this email.

Submit a current Working with Children's Check

<https://www.ocg.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>.

This is required for anyone who works with children. The Check can be commenced on the NSW Office of Children's Guardian website and then you will need to attend Service NSW to verify your identity. There is no cost for a volunteer check. Norths is required to verify and keep a record of all checks. Obtain your Check and forward the notification email and your date of birth to clubcommittee@northscc.com.au.

Sign and Return the Cricket Australia Looking After our Kids Acknowledgement Form

Sign and return the Acknowledgement Form attached to this email to clubcommittee@northscc.com.au.

Norths will keep a record of your Acknowledgement Form.

Complete the Play by the Rules – Child Protection Online Course

<https://www.playbytherules.net.au/online-courses>

A free course for anyone who interacts with children and young people in sporting environments.

Download the certificate when you have completed the course and email it to clubcommittee@northscc.com.au.

Norths will keep a record of your course completion.



Child Safety

The following personnel at Norths work to ensure Safeguarding of our junior members.

Child Safety Officer (CSO) - the first point of contact for all Safeguarding matters. The CSO has completed training in Child Protection and is also a MPIO. If you have any questions or need guidance, please contact the CSO.

Name: Linda Gabriel
Mobile: 0419 665323

Member Protection Officer (MPIO) - the first point of contact for anyone wanting to discuss problems within the club. They provide information and guidance on complaints procedures. MPIO's do not investigate complaints but provide information about your rights, responsibilities, and options. MPIO's have completed online and face to face training to be able to hold this position.

Name: Stewart Ison
Mobile: 0421 783 393

Name: Linda Gabriel
Mobile: 0419 665323

Some Important Issues to Consider When Dealing with Children and Young People

Communications – always include the parent or guardian when communicating with members under the age of 18. Whether you are emailing, using social media or other electronic platform, or verbally discussing an issue, it is important to ensure parents or guardians are included.

Taking Images – permission must always be sought from parents or guardians prior to photography or filming of members under the age of 18. If you are photographing or filming a game, permission must always be sought from the other team if they have members under the age of 18. Images must be relevant to cricket and must respect the privacy of those involved. The *Image Consent and Release Form* should be used and is available from the Cricket Australia website.

Transport of Children and Young People – coaches should ensure that their players are being correctly transported to and from training, games, and other club activities. Coaches, managers, and captains should never leave training, games or other activities until all children and young people under their supervision have been collected. Where required, the *Parent/Guardian Transportation/Pick Up Approval Form* should be used and is available from the Cricket Australia website.

Discrimination, Bullying, Harassment and Victimisation – always aim to provide an environment that treats participants with dignity and respect. Always be mindful of the way you communicate and approach situations at training and at games. Be aware of the way children and young people may interpret situations.

Social Media – when engaging in social media always ensure that comments are factually correct, accurate, do not breach confidentiality and that respect is shown. Encourage our children and young people to do the same.

Alcohol and Drugs – children and young people are entitled to be able to participate in cricket in a safe environment. While consumption of alcohol is permitted during some cricket activities, it should be done responsibly and lawfully. The use of illegal drugs is unlawful, and their use will not be accepted or condoned.