CHILD SAFETY OFFICER

All organisations providing a service to young people under 18 must be compliant with SA Government requirements to provide a child safe environment. This person should be familiar with the responsibilities associated with mandated reporting and who these apply to. They also need to understand the requirements that organisation(s)/club(s) need to meet in order to comply with government regulations surrounding child safe environments.

Responsible to: the President and committee.

Responsibilities and Duties:

The Child Safety Officer will:

- distribute or promote the Child Safe policy and procedures to all club members
- work with the committee to assess risks to child safety within the club and develop procedures to minimise this risk
- ensure the club undertakes correct screening of all volunteers and employees according to the current legislation, including maintaining a database of Working with Children Clearances, and ensuring that clearances for responsible persons are current.

The Child Safety Officer should be the first point of contact for members who have concerns about a child or young person within the organisation or group and they may provide advice and support to assist the member with making a report.

Knowledge and Skills Required

Ideally the Child Safety Officer is someone who:

- Is familiar with the child safety legislation and guidelines and has received appropriate training for the role.
- Understands the legislative requirements for organisations to adopt appropriate screening processes for members involved with young participants.
- Understands the definitions and indicators of child abuse and neglect.
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of the requirement under the Children's Protection Act of the legal responsibilities of staff and volunteers working with children.

Election and Term

The Child Safety Officer is elected at the AGM for a 12 month term.

The committee understands that all volunteers have other commitments, whether that is work or family. These duties (including response to emails / calls) can be managed around those commitments. This role also requires the volunteer to join the Committee. Please feel free to call me on 0466 668 845 if you would like to discuss this role further.

Regards, Keith Waugh President