



# Child Safe Organisations

Week 5

April 2026

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# Acknowledgement of Country

QTF respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands on which we gather, work and volunteer in across Queensland. We acknowledge their continuing connection to lands and waterways and pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islander Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples joining us today.





# 02

## National Principle 2

Children and young people at our club are told about their rights and feel safe because we involve them, listen to them and value their opinions.

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# National Principle 2

Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.



## Goal

Children and young people at our club are told about their rights and feel safe because we involve them, listen to them and value their opinions.

### There are 3 key components to National Principle 2:

- Inform children of their rights in ways they understand
- Allow them to have input into decisions that affect them
- Take children's views seriously and respond appropriately

National Principle 2 is about voice, participation, and influence - not tokenism



## What children and young people should be saying in our club

I know what to do if I feel unsafe.

I feel comfortable talking to adults at my club and I know they will listen.

I have friends I can talk to at my club.

# Children are informed

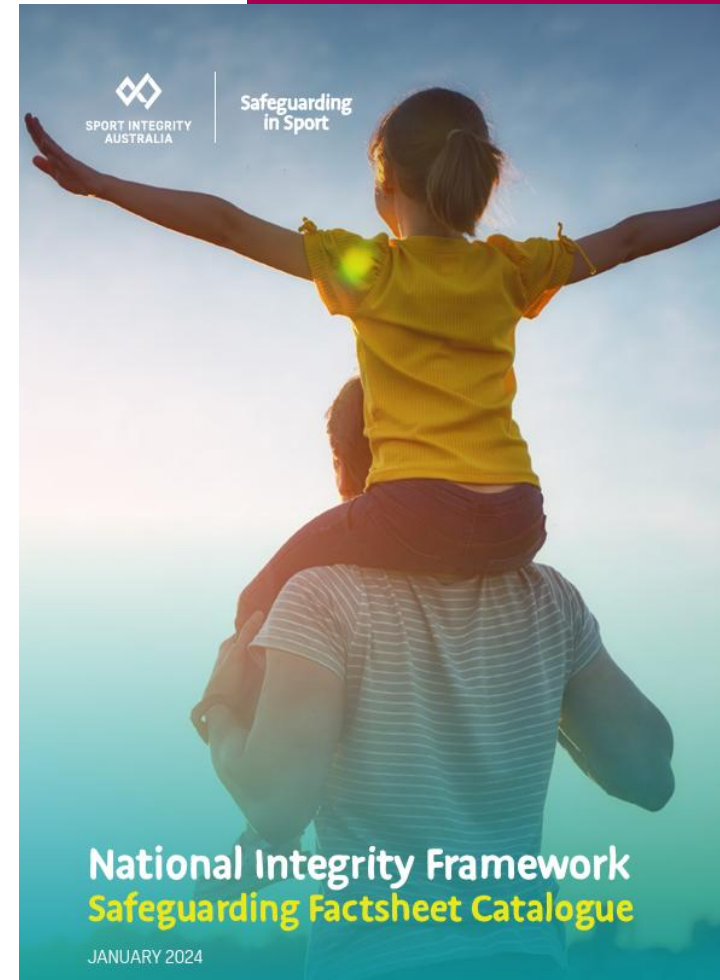
## Background

Children and young people aren't just people to protect - they're key partners in creating safety.

By understanding their rights and responsibilities, and with the right information and support, young people can actively help build a safer club and look out for themselves and each other.

- Children don't automatically understand what a safe environment looks like within sport: appropriate behaviour, boundaries, or expectations
- Associations can't assume children know what is okay or not okay
- Safe environments must be explained, sometimes taught, and consistently modelled by adults
- Children need clear guidance on how they should be treated and how to speak up
- Without education, children may normalise unsafe behaviour or not realise they can ask for help

Quick win – [Sport Integrity Australia](#) has a range of resources



# Children are informed

## What should this look like at your Association?

Informing children of their rights means explaining them in ways that are easy for them to understand and relevant to their everyday experiences.

- Clear, simple, age-appropriate language
- Focus on key rights such as feeling safe, being respected, and speaking up
- Give examples that include how adults at your association should treat them
- Use examples, visuals, conversations, or activities rather than written policies alone
- Reinforce rights regularly, not just once at the start
- Link rights to everyday situations children experience
- Help children recognise when something is not okay and who they can go to for help
- Build children's confidence to ask questions and raise concerns

Sport Integrity Australia has a bank of resources, or you can create your own.

[NIF Safeguarding Factsheet Catalogue](#)

An infographic from Sport Integrity Australia and the Australian Human Rights Commission. It features a title 'Hey kids! Learn about YOUR RIGHTS at sport' in a blue and pink bubble. The infographic includes logos for Sport Integrity Australia and the Australian Human Rights Commission. It contains text explaining rights for children aged 7 to 12, a list of 'Some important rights' (right to be safe, right to privacy, right to be treated fairly, right to have your say), and an illustration of two children playing basketball. The website www.sportintegrity.gov.au is listed at the bottom.

**SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA** | **Safeguarding in Sport** | **Australian Human Rights Commission**

### Hey kids! Learn about **YOUR RIGHTS** at sport

This information is for children **aged 7 to 12 years**. It helps you understand your key rights – in your everyday life and when you take part in sport.

#### What do we mean by “rights”?

All people, including children, have human rights. Rights are the things that all people need and that help us have a good life. Because you are a child, you also have special rights under the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* to help you grow up safe and healthy.

#### Some important rights

- You have the **right to be safe, and to feel safe**. This means that no one is allowed to do things or say things that make you feel unsafe.
- You have the **right to privacy**. Your body belongs to you. Nobody is allowed to touch you or take photos of your body in a way that makes you feel upset, frightened or embarrassed.
- You have a **right to be treated fairly**, no matter what your ability, who you are or where you are from.

You have the **right to have your say**, and adults should listen to what you say. This means you should be asked about things that matter to you and what you say should be taken seriously. Human rights come with **responsibilities**. This means it is everyone's job to treat other people with respect and kindness. That includes you!

If someone makes you feel upset, hurts you or touches you in a way that you don't like or that makes you feel scared, you should tell someone. This could be a coach, a parent or carer, or any adult you trust. The right person will help you with the next steps to feeling safe. If you don't get the help you need, you might need to talk to someone else. Keep trying until you feel heard.

[www.sportintegrity.gov.au](http://www.sportintegrity.gov.au)

# Children have input

## Background

Allowing children and young people to have input into decisions that affect them involves practical, intentional actions, including:

- Create safe, genuine opportunities for children to share their views
- Ask for input on decisions that directly affect their experiences (eg activities, rules, behaviour expectations)
- Use methods that are comfortable and accessible for different ages and abilities
- Ensure participation is meaningful, not tokenistic
- Consider children's ideas when making decisions
- Let children know how their input influenced outcomes
- Help children feel valued, respected, and confident to speak up

**National Principle 2 is not about handing over responsibility to children - it's about adults with power choosing to listen, respond, and act.**

**Committee leadership is the difference between "we asked" and "we changed."**



# Children have input

What could this look like at your Association?

There are lots of practical ways to involve children and young people so they feel heard and valued. You may use a range of strategies to capture the ideas and experiences of young participants, including:

- Surveying children before decisions are made
- Providing child-friendly feedback options
- Appointing youth ambassadors or youth advisory groups
- Including youth representation on working groups and boards
- Involving children in strategic planning workshops
- Creating safe ways for young people to share their experiences

**Sport Integrity Australia:**

[How to involve Children and Young People in Your Sporting Organisation](#)



# Children have input

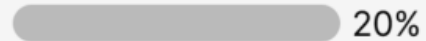
Workshop survey

Where do children's voices currently appear in your association?

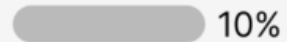
informal feedback



not sure



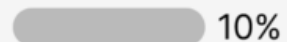
nowhere



surveys



committees



# Children are taken seriously

## More than just listening

Taking children's views seriously means actively listening and responding with respect and appropriate action.

When children share ideas or concerns, adults must show they are heard and believed by responding in a timely and considered way, escalating safety issues when needed and explaining decisions clearly.

Giving feedback - even when change isn't possible - builds trust and reinforces that speaking up matters, encouraging a safer and more respectful organisational culture. Adults in positions of power should:

- Listen without judgement or dismissal
- Act on feedback where appropriate
- Escalate safety concerns immediately
- Explain decisions in child-friendly language
- Let children know the outcome ("you said, we did")
- Record actions and reviewing patterns over time



# Next Steps – National Principle 2

## Principle in practice



Your association should provide:

- ✓ Child-friendly information about rights and safety – quick win [NIF Safeguarding Factsheet Catalogue](#)
- ✓ Multiple ways for children to have a say (verbal, written, visual, anonymous)
- ✓ Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people to have a say
- ✓ A clear process for responding to and recording children's feedback
- ✓ Evidence that input is considered in decision-making
- ✓ Inclusive practices for children with additional needs

National Principle 2 is not about doing more paperwork — it is about changing how decisions are made.

If children's voices are visible in governance records, decisions, and improvements, the association is on the right track.





## Play by the Rules – Let Kids Be Kids

<https://www.playbytherules.net.au/>



# Resources

Supporting delivery

## Resources

<https://qldtouch.com.au/child-safe-organisations-resources>

## Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

<https://qldtouch.com.au/child-safe-organisations-faqs/>



# QUESTIONS?



Please provide some feedback 😊



**WEEKLY ZOOM DROP IN - CLICK HERE TO JOIN**

Every Thursday - 10:00am-11:00am

Next session Thursday 30 April 2026

Zoom Drop In available for all Affiliate committees and/or staff seeking support with Child Safeguarding implementation



# Thank You



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