

ESC Child Safety Standards 2022 - Introductory Guide

Note this is an introductory guide only. Members must comply with the new requirements defined in:

- Child Safety Policy ESC 12/10/22
- Code of Conduct for dealing with Children & Young People 12/10/22
- Child Safety on Duty or Sailing on Race Days 12/10/22
- Child Safety Teenager's Guide [summary document for 13–17-year-olds] 12/10/22

Quick Guide to Requirements

- Child Safety Policy aim is to protect the safety of children in our care and prevent abuse from occurring. All complaints will be treated seriously and fully investigated, and handled with maximum confidentiality and discretion.
- Child means a person involved in the activities of ESC and under the age of 18 years unless otherwise stated under the law applicable to the child (e.g. for the purposes of child sexual offences in Victoria, a "child" refers to a person under the age of 16 years).
- Working With Children Check (WWCC) remains a requirement for all ESC staff, and adult members (over 18) who are expected, or volunteer to participate in sailing duties, or who volunteer for a supervising or coordinating role in other events where children may be present, or who nominate for General Committee or other positions within the club.
- The Code of Conduct or Dealing With Children has specific requirements for how to deal with children at ESC. This applies to all adults and particularly if you are a member of staff, on the General Committee, training children, regularly on duty, or regularly volunteering for a role which may include directing children:
 - Maintain professional boundaries i.e. if you are a coach, restrict your activities to coaching.
 - Avoid unsupervised situations with children wherever possible: you should always be in view of others.
 - Electronic communications must be cc'd to parents, and limited to topics relevant to ESC or sailing.
 - Physical Contact with children must be appropriate to delivery of our sport such as to develop sailing skills, or to prevent or respond to an injury.
 - Giving gifts to children must be authorised by parents/guardians.
 - Only take photographs or video footage of children involved in sailing if:
 - Wherever possible, prior approval has granted by their parent/guardian
 - The context of the photo/footage is directly related to sailing
 - Children are appropriately dressed and posed
 - The image/footage is taken in presence of others involved in sailing.
 - Seek permission from a child's parent or guardian before using their images.
 - Staff or others engaged in a supervisory role for children need to supervise children in change rooms whilst balancing their right for privacy. Adults not involved in these activities should be alert to risks for children in the change rooms.
 - Avoid one-to-one unsupervised situations with children in a change room area.

- Staff or others involved in a supervisory role for children can only transport children in circumstances that are directly related to the delivery of our sport and only with prior written approval of the child's parent/guardian and the express acknowledgment of a nominated ESC Senior Person. This is not required when a member has the prior approval of the child's parent/guardian to provide transport from the child's home for sailing activities
- Children sailing: parent/carer/child to inform tower duty officer. Duty crew and rescue boats to be informed by tower duty officer and are to keep a look out for the children on the water.
- Children volunteering for duty:
 - Parent of child to discuss duty and transport to the marina with duty crew. If no parent is present, written parent agreement to the child duty is required.
 - Avoid situations where the child is only in the company of one adult.
 - Agreement for the child to do duty is at the discretion of the boat master.
- Training of Children
 - Training of children who are accompanied by their parent/carer at all times may be conducted by ESC volunteers who have WWCC and are fully conversant with the ESC Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct.
 - Training of children who are not accompanied at all times in the training by their carer/parent can only be conducted by AS accredited trainers and courses.
- Obligation to report Child Safety issues:
 - Allegation, suspicion or observation of abuse is to be reported that day to ESC manager, secretary, Commodore, Rear Commodore or Vice Commodore.
 - Any person who believes on reasonable grounds that a child needs protection from any form of child abuse, may disclose that information to the Police, DHHS or the Commissioner for Children & Young People (CCYP).
 - Call 000 if a child is in immediate danger.