



Queensland

GREAT COACHES CREATE SAFE ENVIRONMENTS



As a Coach within Surf Life Saving Queensland, you are more than an instructor – you are a leader, role model and Person in a Position of Authority.

Children, young people and their families place trust in you to create an environment that is safe, supportive, inclusive and respectful.

Every coach plays a role in protecting children and promoting positive experiences in Surf Life Saving.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

As a Coach, you must:

- Put the safety and wellbeing of children and young people first.
- Follow SLSA and SLSQ Child Safe, Member Protection and Code of Conduct requirements.
- Maintain professional boundaries at all times.
- Create an inclusive environment where all participants feel welcome and respected.
- Hold and maintain any required Blue Card and coaching qualifications.
- Report concerns, disclosures or incidents through the appropriate pathways
- Lead by example through your behaviour, language and actions.



PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES

DO

- ✓ Communicate professionally and transparently.
- ✓ Include parents/guardians in communications where appropriate.
- ✓ Conduct activities in open and observable environments.
- ✓ Treat all participants fairly and consistently.
- ✓ Ensure appropriate supervision is maintained.

DON'T

- ✗ Develop personal or inappropriate relationships with participants.
- ✗ Use your position to influence, intimidate or favour individuals.
- ✗ Meet with children or young people in private or isolated settings.
- ✗ Ask participants to keep secrets.

IF SOMETHING DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT

If Something Doesn't Feel Right

If you witness concerning behaviour, receive a disclosure or become aware of a child safety concern:

1. Ensure immediate safety if required.
2. Record what was observed, disclosed or reported.
3. Report the matter through the appropriate Club or SLSQ reporting pathway.
4. Do not investigate the matter yourself.

Remember: It is your responsibility to report concerns, not to determine whether misconduct has occurred.

REMEMBER

Every interaction matters.

Every training session matters.

Every child matters.

By creating safe environments and leading by example, coaches help ensure Surf Life Saving remains a positive experience for all children and young people.

NEED ASSISTANCE?

Visit the SLSQ Child Safe Hub: [HERE](#)

Or speak with your Club Executive, Complaints Manager or SLSQ.

