**Role-Specific Responsibilities for Child Safety**

*Aligned with SLSA’s Child Safe Guideline (2023), Policies 6.04 & 6.05*

**CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES**

* Clubs are expected to lead the implementation of child safe practices at the local level.
* Make a visible and active commitment to child safety, including adopting a Child Safe Commitment Statement.
* Promote and implement the SCode of Conduct for all members, including persons in positions of authority.
* Assign a Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) who is known to members.
* Ensure all members who work or volunteer with children hold a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC) and that all screening records are maintained securely.
* Ensure that all relevant volunteers complete the SLSA Child Safe Online Awareness Module.
* Establish clear reporting procedures and ensure all members know how and where to report concerns (e.g., via [reporting.sls.com.au](http://reporting.sls.com.au/)).
* Regularly review and promote child safety in club communications, meetings, and public spaces (e.g., posters, newsletters).
* Provide ongoing education and engagement opportunities for members, parents, and young people (e.g., forums, surveys).

**OFFICERS (Presidents, Committee Members, Team Leaders, Age Managers)**

Those in leadership or decision-making roles have elevated responsibilities to model and embed child safe culture. Officers must:

* Understand and uphold SLSA's Child Safe Policy (6.04) and Member Protection Policy (6.05).
* Lead by example in upholding the Code of Conduct, especially around professional boundaries, supervision, and respectful engagement with children.
* Include Child Safe as a standing agenda item in committee and board meetings.
* Ensure all volunteers and staff in child-related roles are appropriately screened, trained, and supervised.
* Take immediate action if child safety concerns are raised, including escalation to SLSQ and authorities when required.
* Promote inclusive practices that empower children and encourage them to speak up and participate.
* Oversee the implementation and review of all child safety practices across club operations.
* Ensure safe communication practices with children, including oversight of digital platforms, messaging apps, and photos/videos.

**MEMBERS (Volunteers, Coaches, Patrolling Members, Junior Activity Leaders)**

All members play a role in creating and maintaining a safe environment for children and young people. Members must:

* Know and follow the SLSA Child Safe Code of Conduct at all times.
* Complete the Child Safe Awareness training if involved in child-related roles (e.g., Age Managers, coaches).
* Report concerns about child safety—even if unsure—through the appropriate pathways.
* Avoid engaging in inappropriate relationships or communication outside official club channels with children or young people.
* Respect and maintain clear boundaries, including during supervision, physical contact, online contact, and private conversations.
* Seek parental/guardian permission for taking or sharing photographs or videos of children.
* Model respectful, inclusive, and non-discriminatory behaviour on and off the beach.
* Be aware of signs of harm, grooming, or abuse, and act in line with club training and policy guidance.

For policies, procedures and resources, please go to [Child Safe - Surf Life Saving Queensland](https://lifesaving.com.au/child-safe) or email compliance@lifesaving.com.au