



PORT DISTRICT FOOTBALL CLUB Inc.

FOUNDED 1979 - INCORPORATING SEMAPHORE CENTRALS (1898) & EXETER (1924) F.C.

The Port District Football Club Inc. (PDFC) is the incorporated body of the Senior Football, Junior Football and Cricket competitions.

Protection of Children

1 Background

The Port District Football Club Inc. is a local incorporated club in the Largs Bay area promoting and encouraging the health and well-being through competitive sports activities. It is the aim to provide the facility for all members to participate in a social and friendly atmosphere where all are welcome throughout the year whilst either participating in and/or supporting cricket or football.

2 Child Protection

The Port District Football Club is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people.

We support the rights of the child and will act without hesitation to ensure a child safe environment is maintained at our club all times. We also support the rights and wellbeing of our staff and volunteers and encourage their active participation in building and maintaining a supportive environment for all participants.

Port District Football Club acknowledges that our staff, members, volunteers and supporters provide a valuable contribution to the positive experiences of children involved in our sport. We are committed to measures to protect the safety and welfare of children participating in our sport by:

2.1 Identify and Analyse Risk of Harm

The Port District Football Club will review of existing child protection practices, to determine how child-safe and child-friendly the club is and to determine what additional strategies are required to minimise and prevent risk of harm to children because of the action of an employee, volunteer or another person.

2.2 Develop Codes of Behaviour for Adults and Children

The Port District Football Club will ensure that the organisation has codes of behaviour that specify standards of conduct and care when dealing and interacting with children, particularly those in the club's care.

The club will also implement a code of behaviour to address appropriate behaviour between children.

The code(s) of behaviour will set out professional boundaries, ethical behaviour and unacceptable behaviour.

2.3 Choose Suitable Employees and Volunteers

The Port District Football Club will ensure that the organisation takes all reasonable steps to ensure that it engages the most suitable and appropriate people to work with children (in prescribed positions).

This may be achieved using a range of screening measures. Such measures will aim to minimise the likelihood of engaging (or retaining) people who are unsuitable to work with children.

The Port District Football Club will ensure that working with children checks/criminal history assessments are conducted for employees and volunteers working with children, where an assessment is required by law.

If a criminal history report is obtained as part of their screening process, the Port District Football Club will ensure that the criminal history information is dealt with in accordance with relevant state requirements.

2.4 Support, Train, Supervise and Enhance Performance

The Port District Football Club will ensure that volunteers and employees who work with children or their records have ongoing supervision, support and training such that their performance is developed and enhanced to promote the establishment and maintenance of a child-safe environment.

2.5 Empower and Promote the Participation of Children in Decision-Making and Service Development

The Port District Football Club will promote the involvement and participation of children and young people in developing and maintaining child-safe environments.

2.6 Report and Respond Appropriately To Suspected Abuse and Neglect

The Port District Football Club will ensure that volunteers and employees are able to identify and respond to children at risk of harm.

The Port District Football Club will make all volunteers and employees aware of their responsibilities under the *Children's Protection Act 1993* to make a report to the Child Abuse Report Line (13 14 78) if they have suspicion on reasonable grounds that a child has been or is being abused or neglected.

If any person feels another person or organisation bound by this policy is acting inappropriately towards a child or is breaching the code's) of practice set out they may make an internal complaint.

3 Supervision

Members under the age of 12 must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult. Our club will provide a level of supervision adequate and relative to the members' age, maturity, capabilities, level of experience, nature of activity and nature of venue.

If a member finds a member under the age of 12 is unsupervised, they should assume responsibility for the member's safety until the parent/guardian or supervisor can be found.

Parents must arrive on time to collect their child for reasons of courtesy and safety. If it appears a member will be left alone at the end of a training session with just one child, they will ask another member to stay until the child is collected.

4 Transportation

Parents/guardians are responsible for transporting their children to and from club activities (e.g. practice and games).

Where our club makes arrangements for the transportation of children (e.g. for away games), we will conduct a risk assessment that includes ensuring vehicles are insured and safe.

5 Taking Images of Children

The Port District Football Club acknowledges that in South Australia under the Summary Offences Act 1953 a person must not engage in indecent filming. Images of children and adults should not be used inappropriately or illegally.

Our club requires that members, wherever possible, obtain permission from a child's parent/guardian before taking an image of a child that is not their own and ensure that the parent knows the way the image will be used.

Our club also requires the privacy of others to be respected and disallows the use of camera phones, videos and cameras inside changing areas, showers and toilets.

If the club uses an image of a child it will avoid naming or identifying the child or it will, wherever possible, avoid using both the first name and surname. We will not display detailed personal information or information about hobbies, likes/dislikes, school, etc as this information can be used as grooming tools by paedophiles or other persons.

We will only use appropriate images of a child, relevant to our sport and ensure that the child is suitably clothed in a manner that promotes the sport and displays its successes.