

Child Protection Policy

Policy Statement

DirtCraft is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children in its care. We recognise the responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation while participating in our activities. A child is recognised as someone under the age of 18 years.

All DirtCraft staff and volunteers must be able to clearly identify the signs and symptoms of abuse and have the confidence to take appropriate action should abuse be suspected or disclosed.

DirtCraft does not tolerate the following forms of abuse:

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse is a non-accidental act on a child that results in physical harm.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional ill treatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effect on the child's emotional development.

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities.

Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, causing long term serious harm to the child's development.

Procedures

Screening

As part of our duty of care, we must ensure that suitable and appropriate employees and volunteers are engaged to work with children. When recruiting people to make our team we interview individuals and where reasonably practicable complete police vetting.

Education and training of staff and volunteers

Staff/volunteers will be trained during their induction to recognise the risks inherent in the sport, identify risk, take risk assessment measures, and respond in appropriate ways to children who have experienced incident.

Good Practice Protocols

Deliver age-appropriate events, coaching and youth development opportunities to participants, take feedback onboard, use positive age-appropriate language. Our staff/volunteers ensure that all physical contact with children is relevant and appropriate to the activity and filming/photography of children is appropriate. Vehicle transport is done so in a vehicle with warrant, registration and the driver have the appropriate license. Do not allow parents, coaches, other children, or spectators to engage in any type of repeated bullying behaviour. We use same sex chaperones when staying overnight on trips/camps unless communicated with parents.

Where abuse is suspected or reported

The welfare and interests of the child or young person are the first and paramount considerations. Ensure the child is safe from immediate harm then consult immediately with nominated person-in-charge and inform parents.

Tristan Haycock – Director

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