



The wording in this document has been developed by Cricket Victoria, in conjunction with the Victorian Metropolitan Cricket Union, and the content of the document has been adopted by the Board of Management as RDCA Policy.

## Working With Children Check Club and Association Guidelines

The Working With Children Check (“**WWCC**”) is a mandatory minimum background check of people who work or volunteer in child-related work. It applies to people who have **regular direct contact** with children where that contact is **not directly supervised**. The WWCC helps to protect children aged under 18 years from physical and sexual harm by preventing those who pose a risk to their safety from working with them'. The policy outlines roles where people are required to apply.

The following information relates to the WWCC that is being phased in for all cricket clubs and associations from 1 July 2008. People working within cricket are not required to have undertaken the WWCC until 30 June 2009 however it is **strongly recommended** that season 2008/09 be used as the start point to ensure Clubs and Associations comply with the relevant laws. Penalties and restrictions will apply from 1 July 2009 if these procedures have not been followed.

A number of sports have already developed sport specific policies in relation to the WWCC. Cricket Victoria in conjunction with its affiliates has developed a minimum standard for Clubs and Associations to adopt to ensure the sport is doing everything possible to prevent child related offences.

Under the Act, a person involved in cricket is considered to be engaging in child related work and must apply for the WWCC if they:

- Work or volunteer in a role that brings them into contact with children under 18; and
- Volunteer or do this work on a regular basis; and
- Have direct contact with children under 18 which is not directly supervised; and
- Do not qualify for one of the exemptions in the legislation (subject to Cricket Victoria's policies).

### EXEMPTIONS

Cricket Victoria endorses the following exemptions from the legislation and it will recognise that Clubs and Associations shall not require the following individuals to apply for the WWCC (subject to appropriate proof being sighted):

- persons aged under 18;
- sworn Members of Victoria Police;
- teachers registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching; (still required to sight the VIT registration and confirm online at [www.vit.vic.edu.au](http://www.vit.vic.edu.au))

It is recommended that where exemptions apply, the Nominated Person records this to ensure up-to-date records are maintained.

Under the legislation, parents do not have to apply for a WWCC if their child is involved in the relevant activity. However, Cricket Victoria does not endorse this exemption and it expressly requires that all parents that meet the criteria set out above apply for, and obtain,



a WWCC. Cricket Victoria is one of a number of sports that have taken this view in order to maximise the protection of children involved in cricket.

## **CLUBS:**

Cricket Victoria expects that Clubs with junior teams will, as a minimum requirement, have the following people obtain a WWCC:

- Junior Coordinator;
- Have A Go Coordinator (now called In2Cricket);
- Team Coach and/or Manager of a team;
- Other members of the junior club who are involved in regular contact with children that are not directly supervised by a person who has completed a WWCC (physical contact eg. Coaching and /or electronic contact).

In the case where junior players are playing in a senior team, the minimum requirements for Clubs in this instance is as follows:

- Senior Coach;
- Secretary;
- Captains of teams;
- Other members of the senior club who are involved in regular contact with children that are not directly supervised by a person who has completed a WWCC (physical contact eg. Coaching and /or electronic contact)

In all instances above, it is recommended that there is a central point of reference at the Club ("**Nominated Person**") for recording and sightings of the WWCC. In the majority of instances this will be the Club Secretary. An example record keeping form is available from <http://www.sport.vic.gov.au>

## **ASSOCIATIONS:**

Cricket Victoria expects that Associations will, as a minimum requirement, have the following people obtain a WWCC:

- Association representative team Coaches and/or Managers that have players U18 participating;
- Other members of the Association who are involved in regular contact with children that are not directly supervised by a person who has completed a WWCC ((physical contact eg. Coaching and /or electronic contact);

Associations should also maintain a register, provided by each Club, of the people within the Association who have been approved under the legislation. It would not be necessary for the Association to sight actual check documents.



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For information regarding the process of obtaining a WWCC, please visit the Department of Justice website at [www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren](http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren) or your nearest Australia Post outlets – bulk lodgements are available for your Club from Australia Post.

The above requirements, to comply with the WWC legislation, are in addition to all existing Cricket Victoria and affiliated member policies such as Code of Behaviour and Member Protection Policies.



Cricket Victoria is the trading name of the Victorian Cricket Association. ABN 28 004 128 812

