



# SOUTH AUSTRALIAN REVOLVER & PISTOL ASSOCIATION INC.

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## Child Safe Policy

(This should be read in conjunction with the Shooting Australia Ltd Member Protection Policy)

South Australian Revolver and Pistol Association Inc. (SARPA) is committed to the well being and safety of all members, in particular children. SARPA recognises that children have specific needs due to their age and development and that these must be considered by clubs, coaches, instructors, range officials, administrators and adult members.

### 1. Child Safe Environment

A Child Safe Environment is one where the safety and well-being of the child is considered; where the child is encouraged to have fun and participate in club and association activities; feels valued and respected and is comfortable about expressing opinions on things that are important to him/her; and where the child feels safe to speak if they are concerned about something.

In order to promote this environment:

- All members to be aware of the Child Safe Policy and the Procedures and Guidelines for Working with Children, and be committed to ensuring that their club is a safe environment for young members. The Policy and Guidelines to be available on the State Website.
- Promoting and enforcing our codes of behaviour, particularly for roles associated with children.
- Adherence, by all members, to normal firearm safety practice.
- Instruction, supervision and participation of children to be appropriate to their age and maturity level.
- That, children are treated respectfully by adult members, coaches, officials and other child members.
- That rules of Fair Play are encouraged and practiced by all.
- That children know what behaviour is considered appropriate within the club environment.

### 2. Harassment and Bullying

SARPA opposes all forms of harassment, discrimination and bullying. We take this issue seriously and encourage anyone who believes that they, or another person, has been harassed, discriminated against or bullied to raise this issue with the Child Safe Officer or management.

### 3. Coaches and Officials working with children

Coaches and Officials working with children are required by SARPA to undertake a Criminal History Assessment every 3 years.

- In the event SARPA is made aware of a criminal offence, a risk assessment will be conducted by the SARPA Executive Committee, based on the actual offence, how long ago it was, the person's role with children and the level of risk posed. The individual and his/her club will be given the opportunity to provide more information regarding the circumstances of the offence and the Association will use "Child Safe Environments: Standards for dealing with information obtained about criminal history of employees and volunteers who work with children".
- Outcomes of these discussions will be written in a report and given to the club's management and the individual.

#### **4. Awareness or Child Abuse and Reporting Requirements**

The *Children's Protection Act 1993* makes it a legal requirement to report a reasonable suspicion or incidences of abuse or neglect.

A reasonable suspicion must be based on facts: (*for example*)

- A disclosure of abuse by a child.
- Professional judgement based on the notifier's experience and observation.
- Disclosure by a child or an adult that a child is being abused or is at risk.

#### **Action**

- Coaches and Club Officials will be made aware of Training for Mandated Reporting when it is available, and encouraged to attend.
- Clubs and Coaches will be able to discuss any concerns they have with the SARPA Child Safe Officer.
- Notification must be made to **Families SA Child Abuse Report Line – 13 14 78**.

#### **5. Communication**

SARPA will ensure that everyone to whom this policy applies is aware of, and has had an opportunity to read, the policy.