

# **City of Echuca Bowls Club Child Safe Policy**

**January 2017**

The City of Echuca Child Safe Policy has been prepared to demonstrate the strong commitment of the Board and Club members to child safety. The outline of the policy's practices show we will keep all children safe from any harm, including abuse.

## **Commitment to Child Safety**

All children who come to City of Echuca Bowls Club have a right to feel and be safe. The welfare of the children visiting our Club will always be our first priority and we have a zero tolerance to any form of child harm, including abuse. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and can have fun.

## **Children's Rights to Safety and Participation**

City of Echuca Bowls Club Board of Management and Club members encourage children to express their views. We actively encourage all children who participate in Club activities to 'have a say' about things that are important to them.

We advise children about what they can do if they feel unsafe. We listen and act on concerns children or their parents, raise with us.

## **Valuing Diversity**

City of Echuca Bowls Club values diversity and will not tolerate any discriminatory practices. To achieve this we:

- Promote the participation of children of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island background and their families.
- Promote the participation of children from culturally diverse backgrounds and their families.
- Welcome children with a disability and their families and we act to promote their participation.

## **Volunteers**

City of Echuca Bowls Club applies best practice standards in accessing volunteers. We will ensure Working With Children checks are completed for all members supporting participation by children.

## **Reporting a Child Safety Concern or Complaint**

The City of Echuca Bowls Club Board of Management is appointed as the Child Safety Committee with the specific responsibility for responding to any concerns or complaints made by children, their parents or members.

## **Risk Management**

We recognize the importance of a risk management approach to minimizing the potential for child harm to occur and use this to inform our policy, procedures and activity planning.

## **Reviewing this Policy**

This policy will be reviewed every two years and we undertake to seek points of view, comments and suggestions from children, parents and volunteers when this review takes place.