



Promoting Good Practice Policy

Introduction

At Wantirna South Netball Club we aim to provide our members, coaches, umpires and other volunteers with the best possible experience and opportunities in netball. Everyone must operate within our Codes of Conduct to help ensure this outcome is achieved.

It is not always easy to distinguish poor practice from abuse. It is therefore **NOT** the responsibility of Wantirna South Netball Club to make judgements about whether or not abuse is taking place. It is however their responsibility to identify poor practice and possible abuse and act if they have concerns about the welfare of the child. (See Child Protection Policy). It is also our responsibility to outline and encourage what we believe to be good practice.

To help achieve this, the following sections will help all stakeholders identify what is meant by good practice and poor practice.

Good Practice

All Committee, Coaches, Umpires and other volunteers at Wantirna South Netball Club should adhere to the following principles and action:

- always work in an open environment (e.g. avoiding private or unobserved situations and encouraging open communication with no secrets)
- make the experience of netball fun and enjoyable
- promote fairness,
- treat all young people equally and with respect and dignity
- always put the welfare of the young person first, before winning
- Avoid unnecessary physical contact with young people. Where any form of manual/physical support is required it should be provided openly and with the

consent of the young person. Physical contact can be appropriate so long as it is neither intrusive nor disturbing and the young person's consent has been given

- Involve parents/cares wherever possible, e.g. where young people need to be supervised in changing rooms, encourage parents to take responsibility for their own child. If groups have to be supervised in changing rooms always ensure parents, coaches etc work in pairs
- request written parental consent if club officials are required to transport young people in their cars
- gain written parental consent for any significant travel arrangements e.g. overnight stays for tournaments
- ensure that if mixed teams are taken away, they should always be accompanied by a male and female member of staff
- ensure that at away events adults should not enter a young person's room or invite young people to their rooms
- be an excellent role model, this includes not smoking or drinking alcohol in the company of young people
- always give enthusiastic and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism
- recognising the developmental needs and capacity of the young person and do not risk sacrificing welfare in a desire for club or personal achievements. This means avoiding excessive training or competition and not pushing them against their will
- secure written parental consent for the club to act in loco parentis, to give permission for the administration of emergency first aid or other medical treatment if the need arises
- keep a written record of any injury that occurs, along with details of any treatment given

Poor Practice

The following are regarded as poor practice and should be avoided by all Committee, Coaches, Umpires and other volunteers at Wantirna South Netball Club:

- unnecessarily spending excessive amounts of time alone with young people away from others
- taking young people alone in a car on journeys, however short
- taking young people to your home where they will be alone with you
- sharing a room with a young person
- engaging in rough, physical or sexually provocative games, including horseplay
- allow or engage in inappropriate touching of any form
- allowing young people to use inappropriate language unchallenged

- making sexually suggestive comments to a young person, even in fun
- reducing a young person to tears as a form of control
- allow allegations made by a young person to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon
- do things of a personal nature that the young person can do for themselves

When a case arises where it is impractical/impossible to avoid certain situation e.g. transporting a young person in your car, the tasks should only be carried out with the full understanding and consent of the parent/care and the young person involved.

NB: This policy was written and implemented November 2016 and is due for review November 2019.

Source:

Good Sports

<http://goodsports.com.au>

Netball Victoria

<http://vic.netball.com.au>

Declaration

On behalf of Wantirna South Netball Club we, the undersigned, will oversee the implementation of the Promoting Good Practice Policy and take all necessary steps to ensure it is adhered to.

Signed:

Name:	Name:

Position within Wantirna South Netball Club:	Position within Wantirna South Netball Club:

Date:	Date:
