

Badminton Tasmania Child Protection Risk Management Policy (2025)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Child Protection Risk Management Policy is to outline Badminton Tasmania's commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children involved in our badminton programs. These programs include the All Abilities Program, Come & Try Smash TAS Program, Shuttle Smash Program, Junior Pathway Program / State Teams, and Tournaments. Aligned with the principles set forth by the Australian Sports Commission, this policy aims to create a safe and supportive environment for all children participating in these badminton-related activities under the jurisdiction of Badminton Tasmania.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all individuals associated with Badminton Tasmania, including staff, volunteers, coaches, officials, and participants engaged in the All Abilities program, Come & Try Smash TAS Program, Shuttle Smash Program, Junior Pathway Program / State Teams, and tournaments organised by Badminton Tasmania.

3. Principles

Badminton Tasmania is committed to the following principles in relation to child protection:

3.1. Child Safety: Ensuring the safety, welfare, and well-being of children participating in the mentioned programs and tournaments is a top priority in all our operations.

3.2. Inclusivity: Promoting an inclusive and respectful environment within the context of Badminton Tasmania that values diversity and ensures equal opportunities for all children, regardless of their background.

3.3. Prevention: Implementing measures specific to the badminton programs and tournaments to prevent child abuse, including the identification and mitigation of potential risks.

3.4. Reporting: Establishing clear procedures for reporting any concerns or suspicions of child abuse within these programs and tournaments.

4. Risk Management Procedures

4.1. Screening: A mandatory step in the screening process includes verifying a valid Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) card for all individuals involved in roles working with children within Badminton Tasmania's programs and tournaments. This requirement also applies to all individuals participating in any coaching or umpire course arranged by Badminton Tasmania.

4.2. Board and Engaged Individuals Training

Badminton Tasmania ensures that all members of the BT Board complete the following online training modules, available through Sport Integrity Australia:

- Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction
- Safeguarding Recruitment and Screening
- Play by the Rules - Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) - Online Component

In addition, any Board member appointed as a Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) is required to complete the face-to-face MPIO training in accordance with national standards.

All individuals undertaking a Badminton Tasmania arranged coaching or umpire course must complete the:

- Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction course through Sport Integrity Australia prior to or as part of their course participation.

Additionally, Badminton Tasmania ensures that all individuals engaged by BT and working with children and vulnerable people have completed the Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction course.

This comprehensive training approach guarantees that both the BT Board and all engaged individuals possess the necessary knowledge and skills to create a safe environment for children participating in Badminton Tasmania's programs and tournaments.

4.5. Reporting Procedures:

4.5.1. Immediate Action: If there is an immediate risk or danger to a child's safety, emergency services should be contacted without delay by dialling: 000 (Treble 0).

4.5.2. External and Internal Reporting:

External: If you have concerns about the safety or well-being of a child, you can contact the Strong Families Safe Kids Advice and Referral Line on 1800 000 123.

Internal: All individuals associated with Badminton Tasmania are obligated to report any concerns or suspicions of child abuse.

Reports should be directed to the relevant Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) listed in the "Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) and Governance Transparency" section of this policy.

5. Activities Description

5.1. Programs:

All programs, including the All Abilities program, Come & Try Smash TAS program, Shuttle Smash Program, Junior Pathway Program / State Teams, and Tournaments, will be managed by educated coaches aged 18 and above. These coaches, equipped with necessary qualifications and expertise, have undergone child safety training to ensure a safe and enriching environment for participants.

Coaching and Umpire Courses: Badminton Tasmania regularly conducts coaching courses to maintain high standards in coaching, ensuring a positive and educational experience for participants. Additionally, umpire courses are offered to individuals interested in officiating badminton matches, contributing to the development of skilled and knowledgeable umpires and enhancing the overall quality of our badminton programs.

5.2. Management of Programs:

Coaching Staff: All programs will have educated coaches, ensuring a high standard of coaching for participants.

Age and Qualifications: Coaches overseeing the programs are aged 18 and above, meeting the legal requirements for working with children.

Weekend Camps and Interstate Competitions with Junior Pathway Program / State Teams: For weekend camps or interstate competitions with the Junior Pathway Program / State Teams, Badminton Tasmania will ensure the presence of both a female and male official/coach to provide comprehensive support and guidance to participants during these events. This commitment aims to create an inclusive and balanced environment for all participants.

5.3. Group Training:

Structure: Group training sessions will be organised with a structured approach, focusing on skill development, fitness, and overall well-being.

Educational Emphasis: Coaches will integrate educational components into the training sessions, fostering a holistic learning environment.

5.4. Match Play:

Competitive Environment: Match play sessions will provide a competitive yet supportive atmosphere for participants to apply their skills.

Inclusive Practices: All programs will adopt inclusive practices, ensuring that participants of varying abilities feel comfortable and engaged during match play activities.

5.5. Parental Involvement:

Parents are permitted and actively encouraged to observe group training and match play sessions. Designated areas are provided to ensure a comfortable and secure viewing area, allowing parents to witness their child's progress and engagement in the activities.

Badminton Tasmania prioritises transparent communication. Coaches engage with parents before, during, and after sessions, fostering collaboration. Updates and opportunities for discussions are shared through email and phone, ensuring parents stay informed and involved in their child's badminton journey.

6. Compliance, National Child Safe Principles, and Subcontractors

Badminton Tasmania is committed to complying with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and has taken the following measures to safeguard the wellbeing of children participating in our badminton-related activities:

6.1. Implementation of National Principles:

Badminton Tasmania has fully implemented the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations to create a safe and supportive environment for children.

6.2. Child-Related Personnel Compliance:

All Child-Related Personnel associated with Badminton Tasmania, including staff, volunteers, coaches, officials, and participants, are obligated to implement and adhere to the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

6.3. Understanding and Alignment:

Badminton Tasmania recognises the importance of aligning its practices with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, which include these 10 principles:

1. Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance, and culture.
2. Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them, and are taken seriously.
3. Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
4. Equity is upheld, and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.
5. People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
6. Processes to respond to complaints and concerns are child-focused.

7. Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.
8. Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
9. Implementation of the national child safe principles is regularly reviewed and improved.
10. Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

6.4. Communication of Principles:

The National Principles are communicated to all individuals associated with Badminton Tasmania, ensuring a shared understanding of our commitment to child safety.

Badminton Tasmania requires all coaches, managers, officials, administrators, and players selected in State Teams to acknowledge that they have read and understood the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. This acknowledgement must be recorded formally and may be provided via a reply email, online form, or signed document. All records will be maintained as part of the organisation's compliance processes.

6.5. Subcontractors and Secondary Subcontractors:

Badminton Tasmania ensures that subcontractors engaged in any capacity with our programs and tournaments adhere to the same child safety obligations as outlined in the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. This commitment extends our responsibility to maintain a safe and supportive environment for children beyond our direct personnel, emphasising a comprehensive approach to child protection.

6.6. Regular Review and Alignment:

The implementation of the National Principles is subject to regular review and alignment with evolving best practices. This ensures that our commitment to child safety remains current and effective.

7. Review and Monitoring

This policy specific to Badminton Tasmania and its badminton programs and tournaments will be reviewed regularly to ensure its ongoing relevance and effectiveness. Any updates or changes will be communicated to all relevant stakeholders associated with Badminton Tasmania.

8. Implementation

This policy, customised for Badminton Tasmania and applicable to the All Abilities Program, Come & Try Smash TAS Program, Shuttle Smash Program, Junior Pathway Program / State Teams, and the tournaments arranged by Badminton Tasmania, will be communicated to all staff, volunteers, coaches, officials, and participants associated with Badminton Tasmania's

badminton activities. It is the responsibility of all individuals to familiarise themselves with and adhere to this policy.

9. Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) and Governance Transparency

Badminton Tasmania is committed to ensuring transparency and effective governance. To facilitate this, the organisation has appointed an MPIO in each of the three regions of Tasmania to serve as a designated contact for members, ensuring a safe and supportive environment. Badminton Tasmania will regularly update its website to record current Board members, listing their areas of responsibility, including each MPIO.

North West

Brent Munday

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Northern

Abbie Rothery

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Southern

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10. Coach and Officials' Qualifications/Accreditation Audit

Badminton Tasmania is dedicated to maintaining high standards in coaching and officiating and will annually and before a new coach and official starts, conduct an audit of coaches and officials to ensure they possess a valid and current qualification/accreditation.

11. Working with Vulnerable People Compliance Audit

Badminton Tasmania recognises the importance of compliance with Working with Vulnerable People legislation/requirements. To ensure adherence, the organisation will regularly conduct an audit of all coaches, officials, and key volunteers to ensure compliance with Working with Vulnerable People legislation/requirements.

12. Certification and Records Management

Badminton Tasmania is committed to maintaining accurate and up-to-date records for all individuals associated with our programs and tournaments. This includes but is not limited to:

WWVP Certification Database: A secure database will be maintained to record and monitor the validity of Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) cards for all relevant individuals.

Online Courses and Modules Records: Documentation of completed online courses and modules, especially those offered by Sport Integrity Australia, will be systematically recorded and updated to ensure that all staff, volunteers, coaches, officials, and board members remain compliant with the necessary training requirements.

Regular reviews and audits of these records will be conducted to ensure ongoing compliance and to address any upcoming renewals or expirations. This proactive approach to record management reinforces our commitment to the safety and well-being of children participating in our badminton related activities. Badminton Tasmania designates Abbie Rothery as the Records Manager and Compliance Officer responsible for maintaining accurate and up-to-date records related to child protection.

13. Records Manager and Compliance Officer:

Abbie Rothery, serving as the Secretary on the Badminton Tasmanian board, will oversee the management of records, including but not limited to:

- Validity and currency of Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) certifications.
- Completion of mandatory online courses/modules by board members, staff, volunteers, coaches, and officials.

For any inquiries or updates regarding records, please contact:

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