



14 October 2023

Dear Marlins families

My name is Kellie McDonald and I am the Child Safety Officer at the Monbulk Marlins.

I want you to know that at the Monbulk Marlins we are committed to successfully creating a child safe culture and providing a safe physical and online environment for all children and young people, including those more vulnerable than others. Victoria's Child Safe Standards are a result of the recommendations of the Victorian Parliament's Betrayal of Trust inquiry and evidence of what works to prevent child abuse. The Child Safe Standards aim to:

- promote the safety of children
- prevent child abuse
- ensure organisations have effective processes in place to respond to and report all allegations of child abuse.

Children are the heart of our club and they have the right to feel safe, have a voice in decisions affecting them and feel empowered to speak up if they feel uncomfortable.

We ensure volunteers have appropriate background checks and require people who interact with children to undertake online training to understand their role in creating a child safe environment.

Everyone involved at our club, including coaches, committee members, parents/guardians must always act in accordance with the Monbulk Aquatic Club's Codes of Behaviour when interacting with children and young people, by:

- Ensuring children feel safe, supported, included and encouraged;
- Never engaging in sexual misconduct or inappropriate physical contact;
- Providing positive guidance and acting within the scope of their role;
- Never using language that is harmful, discriminatory, racist, sexist, homophobic, biphobic or transphobic;
- Avoiding one-to-one unsupervised situations, including avoiding transporting children without explicit parent/guardian and club consent;
- Restricting communication with children and young people to issues directly related to the club and never communicating online with children without including you as the parent/guardian;
- Never supplying children with alcohol or drugs; and
- Always obtaining parent/guardian consent for photographs, footage or livestreaming involving children.



If at any point in time you wish to discuss something or raise a concern, contact me on 0437 699 170 or [childsafety@monbulkmarlins.com.au](mailto:childsafety@monbulkmarlins.com.au). Concerns can also be raised with our local child protection services. All matters raised will be treated sensitively and will remain confidential.

Complying with the Child Safe Standards will be an ongoing process. You will be able to find relevant documents relating to our compliance on our website, [www.monbulkmarlins.com.au/child-safety](http://www.monbulkmarlins.com.au/child-safety) and from time to time I may send you information on our progress with the implementation .

Further information is available in our Child Safety and Welfare Policy <https://www.monbulkmarlins.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Child-Safety-Welfare-Policy.pdf>

Yours sincerely,

Kellie McDonald  
Child Safety Officer  
Monbulk Aquatic Club