



Underage Members Policy

Melbourne University Futsal Club

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Roles and Responsibilities:

Policy Approver:	President
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Policy Steward:	Club Registrar
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Approval:

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Review Date:	5/03/2029
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1. Objectives

- 1.1. The objectives of this policy are to:
 - 1.1.1. Enable the Melbourne University Futsal Club (the Club) to comply with relevant legislation and obligations related to Child Safety
 - 1.1.2. prevent and manage child abuse risks and guide responses to incidents of harm.

2. Scope

- 2.1. This policy applies to:
 - 2.1.1. All members of the Club, and to people authorised to undertake Club activities.

3. Authority

- 3.1. This policy is made under the Melbourne University Futsal Club Constitution and supports compliance with the:
 - 3.1.1. *Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005* (Vic), including the Child Safe Standards;
 - 3.1.2. *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* (Cth);
 - 3.1.3. Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities;
 - 3.1.4. [Football Victoria's Dispensation Policy](#)

4. Policy

- 4.1. The Club looks to foster an inclusive and welcoming environment, that promotes safety for all participants
- 4.2. The Club does not tolerate child abuse in any form
- 4.3. The Club will
 - 4.3.1. take a proactive approach to the prevention of child abuse by identifying, removing and/or reducing risks early
 - 4.3.2. take all reasonable steps to support and protect a child making a disclosure or the child to whom a concern pertains;
 - 4.3.3. treat all children making a disclosure or to whom a concern pertains with dignity and respect; and
 - 4.3.4. treat all child abuse allegations seriously in accordance with applicable legislative obligations.
- 4.4. Our club supports an open, fair, unbiased, and transparent process for the selection of teams to ensure all players and athletes receive an equal opportunity to be selected in a team, in accordance with the Club's Selection Policy.

5. Procedural principles

Working with Children Checks

- 5.1. In order to comply with the Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 (Vic) and Victorian Child Safe Standards
 - 5.1.1. Require all persons engaged by the Club to hold a valid [Victorian Working with Children Check](#) (WWCC) where in accordance with the Act.
- 5.2. Where recruiting and appointing persons, position descriptions and advertisements clearly demonstrate the Club's commitment to child safety and awareness of its responsibilities, and the requirement to hold or obtain a valid WWCC where required.
- 5.3. All WWCC will be overseen by the Club's Registrar.
- 5.4. Where a person required by this policy to obtain a valid WWCC refuses to apply for a WWCC, or is not successful in obtaining one, this may affect their engagement by the Club or the conditions of their engagement.
- 5.5. Where an engaged person refuses to apply for a WWCC, or where they apply for a WWCC but are not successful this may be grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination of engagement.
- 5.6. The circumstances of section 5 will be managed on a case by case basis by the Club Committee.

Breach of this Policy

- 5.7. The Club will utilise its Disciplinary Policies wherever appropriate in a commitment to supporting any individuals affected by a breach of this Policies.

Privacy, technology and social media

- 5.8. All individuals covered by this policy must protect the privacy of children and their families in accordance with applicable Policies.
- 5.9. Technology and social media are used appropriately in connection with children, including by
- 5.9.1. obtaining all necessary approvals from parents, guardians, or otherwise in accordance with relevant processes and guidelines including appropriate storage and record keeping;
 - 5.9.2. Ensuring that any use of technology and social media by the Club in undertaking its activities is not detrimental to the child or harmful to the child's safety

Open Grade Selection

- 5.10. In alignment with Football Victoria (FV)'s Selection Policy. A person must be an age 15 years prior to the 1 January of that year to be given the all clear to join an Open age team
- 5.11. If a person younger than this age wishes to join a MUFC Open age team, their parent/guardian must seek approval from the club committee. The Club committee, in turn, may seek dispensation from FV where it is an FV-sanctioned competition.
- 5.12. All players over 18 must always abide by our Code of Behaviour, especially when participating with people under 18
- 5.13. The Club will provide relevant players and athletes under 18 and their parents or guardians information on where to voice concerns or issue

6. Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility	Limitations
Club Committee	• Approves the policy and oversees implementation of child-safe obligations. • Manages circumstances where a person refuses or fails to obtain a required WWCC. • Considers requests for underage players (<15) to join Open age teams and determines whether to seek FV dispensation. • Utilises disciplinary policies when a breach occurs.	• Must act within the Constitution and relevant legislation (Child Safe Standards, WWCC law, FV policies). • Cannot approve involvement of individuals who are required to hold a WWCC but refuse or fail to obtain one.
Club Registrar	• Oversees all Working with Children Checks for engaged persons. • Ensures position descriptions and recruitment documents reflect child-safety obligations and WWCC requirements.	• Cannot permit engagement of any person required to hold a WWCC who refuses or is unsuccessful in obtaining one
Coaches, Team Managers & Volunteers	• Hold a valid WWCC where required under legislation. • Promote an inclusive and safe environment and take proactive steps to reduce child-abuse risks. • Support and protect any child making a disclosure. • Ensure selection processes are	• Must not participate in Club activities until a valid WWCC is obtained (where required). • Must not engage in communication with under-18 players that is harmful or inappropriate.

Role	Responsibility	Limitations
	fair, unbiased and follow the Club's Selection Policy. • Use technology and social media appropriately and in accordance with privacy obligations.	
Players Under 18 & Their Parents/Guardians	• Follow the Club's policies and raise concerns via the provided channels. • Provide required approvals for the use of technology, media or other situations involving their child.	• Underage players cannot join Open grade teams unless 15 years old before Jan 1, or unless Club Committee approval and FV dispensation is granted.

7. Definitions

Open grades are competitions not restricted by age. Teams might be single or mixed gender and group is generally based on things like skills, ability, commitment, values and behaviours.

8. Version History

Version	Approved By	Approval Date	Effective Date	Sections Modified
1.0	President	11/03/2026	11/03/2026	Draft Developed

Melbourne University Futsal Club

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