

What do I need to know as a Coach or Umpire

In Netball we want Children and Young People to feel safe, included, encouraged and supported – essentially, to enjoy themselves so that they keep participating. To make sure that we create this environment, [Netball Australia Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy](#), requires everyone involved in Netball to abide by certain behavioural standards when it comes to dealing with Children & Young People.

This is what you need to know as a Coach or Umpire

The primary aim of the Code is to protect and safeguard Children and Young People. This Code is to be followed at all times by all Members and all people involved in any way with Netball.

Positive Guidance

Young People should be treated fairly and respectfully. It is not okay to treat them in a manner that is degrading, cruel, frightening or humiliating.

Adhering to Role Boundaries

Persons in Positions of Responsibility and Authority must not engage in activities or seek contact with young people outside of usual netball programs, events or activities.

Working with Children Check

People in Positions of Responsibility and Authority such as Coaches and Umpires will have a Working with Children Check.

Language & Tone of Voice

Young People should be encouraged. It is never okay for them to experience discriminatory, racist, sexist, belittling, negative, threatening, or sexual behaviour

Supervision

Young People should never be unsupervised, and you will ensure they are in a safe environment and protected from external threats.

Use of Electronic Communications

Any communication directly to Young People should be associated with delivering a netball activity, such as advising training is cancelled. Where possible a parent or carer should also be included.

Gift Giving

Young people should not be receiving gifts from you or others in positions of responsibility unless parents/carers or other responsible adults have been made aware of any gift given.

Photography

Young People have the right not to be photographed and it should only be done so with theirs and a parent or carers permission. It should also be done in the presence of other adults.

Physical Contact

Any physical contact must be appropriate to the delivery of a Netball activity, such as when appropriately correcting technique. No contact should be initiated if it is against a Young Persons wishes

Sexual Misconduct & Relationships

Under no circumstances is any form of 'sexual behaviour' to occur between, with, or in the presence of Young People in a netball environment.

Over Night Stays

Overnight stays need to be authorised by a Senior Netball Person and a parent/carer. It is the Child's right to contact parents/carers, or others, if they feel unsafe, uncomfortable, or distressed during the stay.

Change Room Arrangements

You and other People in positions of authority are required to supervise Young People in change rooms but they do have a right to privacy.

Use, possession or supply of alcohol or drugs

While on duty or carrying out your roles, no person should use, possess or be under the influence of an illegal drug or alcohol. supplying alcohol or drugs (including tobacco) is strictly prohibited.

Transporting Young People

Young People should only be transported by you or other Persons in Positions of Responsibility with prior authorisation from a Senior Person and/or (where practical to do so) from a parent/carer.

Child Safety Code of Conduct

For more detailed information refer to the [Netball Australia Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy](#). If you have a concern or would like to report an issue refer to the [How to Raise a Concern Fact Sheet](#)

