

Safeguarding policy for Emerald Lakers Basketball Club, aligned with the **Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) 2025 Model Rules** and **Basketball Victoria's Child Safe Standards** and **Member Protection Policies**:

# **Emerald Lakers Basketball Club – Safeguarding Policy (2025)**

## **1. Purpose**

Emerald Lakers Basketball Club is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all participants—especially children and young people. This policy outlines our safeguarding responsibilities in line with the **CAV 2025 Model Rules**, **Basketball Victoria's Child Safe Standards**, and relevant Victorian legislation.

## **2. Scope**

This policy applies to all club members, volunteers, coaches, officials, committee members, and visitors involved in club activities, programs, and events.

## **3. Commitment to Child Safety**

We are a child-safe organisation. We:

- Prioritise the safety and well-being of children and young people
- Empower children to speak up and participate in decisions that affect them
- Have zero tolerance for child abuse, bullying, or discrimination
- Require all adults working with children to hold valid Working With Children Checks (WWCC)

## **4. Code of Conduct**

All members must follow our **Child Safe Code of Conduct**, which promotes respectful behaviour, appropriate boundaries, and safe interactions. Breaches may result in disciplinary action under our Model Rules.

## **5. Recruitment and Screening**

We follow Basketball Victoria's guidelines for:

- Screening volunteers and staff
- Conducting reference checks
- Ensuring WWCC compliance
- Providing induction and safeguarding training

## **6. Reporting and Responding**

We encourage all concerns to be reported promptly and respectfully.

- Reports can be made to the Club's Child Safety Officer or President
- We will respond to all allegations seriously, confidentially, and in accordance with legal obligations
- Mandatory reporting laws apply to suspected abuse or harm

## **7. Online Safety and Privacy**

We protect children's privacy and safety in digital spaces by:

- Limiting the use of names and images in public communications
- Obtaining parental consent for media use
- Monitoring social media and messaging platforms used by the club

## **8. Inclusion and Equity**

We celebrate diversity and actively support the participation of:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- Children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Children with disabilities
- LGBTQIA+ youth and families

## **9. Review and Accountability**

This policy is reviewed annually or following significant changes in legislation or club operations.