

SCOUTS VICTORIA

CHILD SAFE SCOUTING AT MAJOR EVENTS



Policy reference National Child Protection Policy, Scouts Australia, 2016; Scouts Victoria Child Protection Policy 2016.

If anyone is in immediate danger, always contact 000 immediately.

Child Safe Report Line: 1800 870 772

Introduction

Scouts Victoria is a Child Safe organisation with zero tolerance for any harm, abuse or neglect. We value the diversity of our members, including gender, sexuality, race, religion and ability. Visit our Child Safe Scouting webpage for more information.

Is my event a Major Event?

Scouts Victoria offers a large array of activities as part of its youth program. The Operational Safety Leadership Committee has defined a major event as any State event or any event with 200 or more participants. If doubt exists the event organisers should seek clarification from the relevant Assistant Chief Commissioner.

Design, planning and delivery of a major event

In the design and planning of a major event organisers must ensure they document the strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety, including through effective leadership arrangements. In doing so organisers must ensure they address the underlying principles of the Victorian Child Safe Standards, being;

- Promoting the cultural safety of aboriginal children.
- Promoting the cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- Promoting the safety of children with a disability.

The strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety must be incorporated in the event risk management plan presented to the Operational Safety Leadership Committee and include evidence that all adults will be made aware of the reporting requirements and reporting mechanism.

Child Safe Statement

Scouts Victoria's Child Safe Statement, included in the introduction of this document, shall be embedded in all internal and external communications relating to a major event.

The organisers of the major event will also ensure that the Child Safe Scouting poster "Feeling Unsafe" is displayed in multiple prominent locations at the event with particular note that the poster must be visible by youth members.

Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct

All adult non-members providing support at major events must agree to abide by the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct. Agreement shall form part of the application process for a major event and include an acknowledgement that adults who are not members may not be left unsupervised with children.

Eligibility for all Adults

All adults applying to attend a major event must, prior to attendance;

- Be recorded on Extranet as either an Adult Member, Rover, or Office Bearer.
- Hold a valid Working With Children Check which has been recorded against the individual Extranet record.
- Have undertaken, within the last three years, the Child Safe Scouting eLearning module available at www.training.scouts.com.au

If you are in any doubt about what to do, please ring the Child Safe Line on 1800 870 772 (24/7, freecall), or use our incident reporting email. For non-urgent queries, or general Scouting enquiries, use the details at the bottom of this factsheet.