



VSA Child Safe Standards

The Victorian Skateboard Association (VSA) is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. We support the rights of the child and will act without hesitation to ensure a child safe environment is maintained at all times.

The new Victorian Child Safety Standards (Victorian Government legislation as of January 1, 2017) now applies to sporting organisations that operate and provide sporting services to children within Victoria (including National Sporting Organisations). There are several different requirements which make up the standards, and which sports will be required to comply.

The standards relate to child protection within your Association or Club, and include requirements to have practices, procedures and policies in place. Skateboarding organisations should now be reviewing their compliance with the standards, as well as checking if the culture and environment within their organisation is supportive and protective of children.

The Standards apply to organisations as a whole, not only the areas that work with children. This includes:

- Board of management/committee members
- All paid staff (CEO, Executive, employees)
- All volunteers (coaches, officials, administrators, scorers etc)
- All students on placement
- Any contractors that are engaged.

Victorian Skateboard Association (VSA) encourages all of its affiliated members to review their culture, processes and practices against the Child Safety Standards and make any changes that are required moving forward. This should be communicated to your affiliate clubs and all members.

The Standards also contain new requirements regarding the Working with Children Check from 1 January 2017. For further information regarding the new Working with Children Check requirements go to: <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

Remember: Child safety is not an add-on or one-off exercise. It is a legal requirement that your organisation will need to be compliant with as of 1 January 2017. Having policies and procedures in place is not enough. It's about creating a culture and environment within sport that is supportive and protective of children.

For further information or help, contact

The Department of Health & Human Services

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www.dhs.vic.gov.au

The Commission for Children and Young People

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