



Gregory Hills FC Member Protection Policy

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1. Introduction

Gregory Hills FC (GHFC) is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all its members. This Member Protection Policy outlines our commitment to safeguarding the safety, wellbeing, and rights of all members, with particular attention to children and young people under the age of 18.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all members of Gregory Hills FC, including players, parents, guardians, coaches, volunteers, staff, and visitors.

3. Commitment to Member Protection

- **General Member Protection:** Gregory Hills FC prioritises the safety, wellbeing, and respectful treatment of all members, ensuring a club culture free from harassment, abuse, discrimination, and misconduct.
- **Child Protection:** The club is particularly committed to safeguarding children and young people under the age of 18. This includes adhering to child protection laws, implementing safety measures, and taking appropriate action to protect minors from harm, abuse, or neglect.

4. Reporting Procedures

If a member suspects or witnesses an incident involving harm, abuse, misconduct, or neglect, they must report it to the club as soon as possible. Reports can be made:

- **In person:** Directly to any member of the club board.
- **By email:** To regsitrar@gregoryhillsfc.org.au and president@gregoryhillsfc.org.au
- **By phone:** Contact +61 481 982 930.

All reports will be treated with sensitivity, confidentiality, and urgency.

5. Club Response

- All reported concerns will be assessed and investigated promptly.
- For incidents involving children, the matter will be escalated to external authorities, including the NSW Police or child protection services, where required by law.
- The club will take appropriate disciplinary action against any member found in breach of this policy, ensuring that outcomes align with NSW and Australian laws, including the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 (NSW)*.



6. Member Responsibilities

- All members must behave in a manner that promotes the safety, wellbeing, and inclusivity of the club.
- Members must not engage in harassment, abuse, discrimination, or any behaviour that could harm others.
- Coaches, staff, and volunteers must comply with relevant Working with Children Check (WWCC) requirements before undertaking any roles involving minors.
- All members are expected to report any concerns or incidents promptly to ensure the club remains a safe environment for everyone.

7. Education and Training

Gregory Hills FC is committed to educating its members about their responsibilities under this policy. The club will:

- Provide training to coaches, volunteers, and staff on child protection, member protection, and safe practices.
- Regularly review and update policies and procedures to remain compliant with legal requirements and best practices.

8. Breach of Policy

- Any member found in breach of this policy will face disciplinary action, which may include suspension, expulsion, or reporting to law enforcement authorities.

9. Contact Details for Assistance

If you require further information or assistance, please contact:
Gregory Hills FC Board

Email: president@gregoryhillsfc.org.au

Phone: +61 481 982 930.

10. Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually or as required to ensure it remains aligned with current legislation and best practices.