

# MAROOCHYDORE SLSC CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION STRATEGY

Maroochydore SLSC Surf Lifesaving Club is committed to providing a safe environment for children and youth in its care. Children and Youth are defined as those under the age of 18 years old. Maroochydore Surf Life Saving Club has in excess of 472 members in this demographic.

Maroochydore Surf Lifesaving Club has recently implemented its child and youth protection strategy in line with the SLSQ Child & Youth Risk Management Strategy which falls in line with the Commission's Act to have a written risk management strategy in place to comply with the minimum requirements specified in the Commission for Children and Young People Amendment Regulation (No.1) 2006.

The strategy and resource is based around 8 key mandatory requirements:

### Commitment

- A statement of commitment to the principles of safe and supportive service environments (mandatory requirement 1), and
- A code of conduct (mandatory requirement 2).

## Capability

• Recruitment, selection, training and management strategies that encourage best practice and enhance the safety and well-being of children and young people (mandatory requirement 3).

# Concerns

- Policies and procedures for handling disclosures and suspicions of harm (mandatory requirement 4)
- Policies and procedures for the occasions where there might be a breach of the organisation's child and youth risk management strategy (mandatory requirement 5), and
- A planning process for high risk activities and special events (mandatory requirement 7).

### Consistency

- Policies and procedures for compliance with Part 6 of the Commission's Act (which regulates the blue card system) [mandatory requirement 6], and
- Strategies for communication and support for all stakeholders including children and young people (mandatory requirement 8).

Our "Statement of Commitment" is now on all notice boards and the resource which is a large folder of policies, procedures, guidelines forms and templates dealing with all aspects of child protection and safety will be kept in the back administration office.

It is everyone's responsibility to keep our children safe, so if you see or hear of any suspicious activity, it must be reported. Depending on the immediacy or seriousness of any suspicious activity or act, a report can be made to the Club Captain, President, Youth Development officer, Junior Activities Chairperson, the Police or the Commission for Children.

For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact

Shane Bridley 0423 051 899 shanebridley@optusnet.com.au