



Making fencing a safe and enjoyable sport

We all have a duty of care towards children and young people and should treat all our members with courtesy and respect.

What to do if:

1. You are a child (under 18) and an adult is bothering you or doing something wrong.

This can be getting too close, touching you sexually, sending you private messages, trying to be alone with you, taking photos of you, asking you to send photos of yourself, giving you presents, asking you out, making you feel uncomfortable, embarrassing you in front of others, bullying you, hurting you

- Tell your parents
- Call the Child Protection Helpline – 132 111
- Contact a Member Protection Information Officer
- Report it to NSWFA – email: childprotection@nswfencing.org.au

If it's really serious (sexual or physical abuse) and you feel endangered, call the police:

Emergency 000 or Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000

Or contact your local police station:

https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/about_us/regions_commands_districts/police_station_search/

2. You see or hear about an adult mistreating a child.

- If it's urgent and the child is in danger, call the police – Emergency 000 or Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000
- Tell the child's parents (unless you think the parent may be the problem)
- Call the Child Protection Helpline – 132 111
- Contact a Member Protection Information Officer
- Report it to NSWFA – email: childprotection@nswfencing.org.au

3. You are a member of NSWFA (of any age) and another member acts badly towards you.

This can be threatening or bullying behaviour, harassing you online or in person, intimidating you, humiliating you in front of others, spreading rumours.

- Contact a Member Protection Information Officer
- Contact NSWFA – email: childprotection@nswfencing.org.au

If you contact a Member Protection Information Officer, here's what they will do:

- Listen carefully to your story
- Give you advice on the best way to handle your concerns
- With your consent, refer your concerns to NSWFA
- Continue to be available to help you while the matter is being dealt with
- Treat the matter in confidence

If a matter of child protection is referred to NSWFA, here's what we will do:

- Report it to the NSW Police as a crime may have been committed
- Report it to the Department of Communities & Justice/Office of the Children's Guardian
- Report it to the AFF
- Take appropriate action under the NSWFA Child Safeguarding Policy. See the NSWFA Child Safeguarding Policy [here](#).

If a member protection matter is referred to NSWFA, here's what we will do:

- Ask you to submit a written complaint detailing your concerns
- Refer it to the NSWFA Board Conduct Committee to consider if an investigation is needed
- The Conduct Committee may handle the matter itself or appoint a Complaint Handler to investigate and report
- If an investigation is undertaken, the Conduct Committee/Complaint Handler will contact the person about whom you have complained and give them a chance to respond in writing
- Interview other people with relevant information
- Make a report to the Board recommending appropriate action
- For serious and complex matters, the Conduct Committee may refer the matter to a Disciplinary Tribunal
- Treat the matter in confidence

This process is detailed in the NSWFA Code of Conduct [here](#).

Contact:

Member Protection Information Officers -

Jess Brooks

Arash Karpour

At: childprotection@nswfencing.org.au

or

NSWFA – secretary@nswfencing.org.au