# CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENTS POLICY

#### **Policy Description**

Child safe environments are safe and friendly settings where children feel respected valued and encouraged to reach their full potential. This policy shows McLaren Districts Riding Club's commitment to promoting and protecting the interests and safety of children attending our club's activities. It should be read in conjunction with the <a href="Equestrian South Australia Child Protection Risk Management Policy">Equestrian South Australia Child Protection Risk Management Policy</a> and is applicable to everyone involved in the club including committee members, instructors, volunteers, riders, parents and spectators.

#### Areas of Responsibility

All committee members, volunteers and coaches at MDRC are responsible for the care and protection of children and reporting information about child abuse. The Committee has ultimate responsibility for the detection and prevention of child abuse and is responsible for ensuring that appropriate and effective internal control systems and education are in place.

#### **Policy Details**

McLaren Districts Riding Club will take preventative, proactive and participatory action on child protection issues, including but not limited to,

- Ensuring our risk management plans and policies include a review of existing child protection practices, verifying compliance and promoting future strategies to prevent the risk of harm to children.
- Disseminating a code of conduct document for club members to ensure expected behaviour and responsibilities are clearly understood.
- Focus on the protection of children and young people and take action to protect them from harm.
- As an affiliate of Equestrian South Australia, we are governed by and will adhere to and abide by the Equestrian South Australia Child Protection Risk Management Policy.
- Submitting a Child Safe Environments compliance statement and reviewing and resubmitting it after 5 years or when there are changes to policies and procedures. A copy of the compliance statement will be made available to any club members wishing to view it.

### Working with Children Check

All McLaren Districts Riding Club committee members are required to complete the Working with Children Check conducted by the South Australian Department of Human Services (DHS) Screening unit. All coaches and other volunteers, paid or otherwise are also required to complete this check, unless exempt as per conditions set out here <a href="https://screening.sa.gov.au/types-of-check/working-with-children-check">https://screening.sa.gov.au/types-of-check/working-with-children-check</a>

## Monitoring Compliance and Breaches

Reporting the suspicion of a child or young person at risk and procedures for dealing with breaches of the child safe environments policy will be conducted as per the <u>Equestrian South Australia Child Protection</u> <u>Risk Management Policy</u>.



## **Dissemination of Policy**

Policy documents are available to club members via the club's website <a href="https://www.mclarendistrictsridingclub.net/">https://www.mclarendistrictsridingclub.net/</a> and social media.