

Top 5 take home suggestions to improve child and youth protection in your club!

1. Ensure you follow new-member processes and undertake appropriate checking and screening before they join.

- 3 visits
- Meeting with member around what they want to achieve in Rotary
- Referee checks
- Do we need a Police check or WCC
- 7 day notice

2. Ensure your Child Protection Officer is supported

- Training Child-safe Environments
- Club presentation opportunity
- Mentoring for new people in the role.
- Ensure open dialogue direct with President
- Engage them in risk assessment processes

3. Ensure that people working directly with young people 0-18 years are appropriately screened and reference checked.

- High risk occurs where a member /volunteer is alone with a young person
- When you provide overnight accommodation
- When you are transporting young people
- Where there are longer term 1:1 relationships

4. Where your club is doing a new, different or unique youth program ensure that you undertake a risk review, seek support and advise our insurance rep well in advance.

- The risk assessment is about physical and psychological safety for the young person and contemplating risk to our members as well.

5. In running a youth program under the Rotary banner you are a mandated notifier. If you have any concerns act – seek advice if you wish, call 131478 (Dept Child Protection CARL 24hrs) and/or Police.

- Often your ‘gut’ instinct concern is correct

BONUS FREE TIP!

6. The world has moved forward – As club and district leaders your job is to help change culture.

- Be very careful in regard to inappropriate touch.
- Don't allow scenarios where allegations could be made to arise.
- Be careful with social media.
- Ensure your club is complying with policy.
- Ensure parental / guardian consents are in place.
- Give youth a chance to provide feedback and influence program design. If you listen they will tell you about problems.

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