



### YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO FEEL SAFE AT ALL TIMES

If you (or your parents/guardians) have concerns, feel uncomfortable or unsafe with anything you see, hear or experience while you are part of WSAS – **please tell someone**.

### WSAS' COMMITMENT TO MEMBERS – CHILD SAFETY

WSAS is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people who participate in our activities. We support the rights of the child and will act at all times to ensure that a child safe environment is maintained.

We also support the rights and wellbeing of our staff and volunteers and encourage their active participation in building and maintaining a secure and safe environment for all participants.

WSAS will take all reasonable steps to ensure that it engages the most suitable and appropriate people to work with children. To minimise the likelihood of engaging (or retaining) people who are unsuitable to work with children, WSAS will ensure that Working with Children Checks are conducted for all employees and volunteers.

WSAS opposes all forms of harassment, discrimination and bullying.

The full WSAS [Policies Document](#) (including Codes of Conduct for athletes, squad staff and parents) is available on the WSAS website.

### SOCIAL MEDIA – USING IT SAFELY

WSAS has a [Social Media Policy](#) which all members are expected to comply with. The policy is available on the WSAS website. The NSW Government Office of the Children's Guardian has a handy tip sheet on how you can protect yourself online. [Link to tip sheet](#)

### SUPERVISION OF ATHLETES

Members under the age of 18 will be supervised at all times by a responsible adult. WSAS will provide a level of supervision adequate and relative to the members' age, maturity, capabilities, level of experience, nature of activity and nature of venue, until their parents collect them.

For reasons of courtesy and safety, parents/guardians must collect their children on time. If it appears a member will be left alone with just one child at the end of any WSAS activity, they will ask another member to stay until the child is collected.

### COMMUNICATION WITH ATHLETES

WSAS will use Team App to communicate with athletes about their WSAS program. Team App is set up to ensure parents/guardians receive a copy of all communication with their child/ward. If email communication is required, a parent/guardian will be copied into the message.

### TRANSPORTATION OF ATHLETES

Parents/guardians are responsible for transporting their children/wards to and from WSAS activities. Where WSAS makes arrangements for the transportation of children (e.g. for away training or overnight trips), WSAS will conduct a risk assessment to ensure appropriate safety measures are in place.

WSAS does not recommend staff or volunteers transport athletes to any WSAS events. If for any reason a staff member or volunteer is transporting an athlete or athletes to a WSAS event, they must have written approval from the athlete's parent/guardian and the WSAS office beforehand.



WESTERN SYDNEY  
ACADEMY OF SPORT

A SAFE PLACE  
FOR ALL MEMBERS

### IMAGES OF CHILDREN

WSAS will obtain approval from parents/guardians before taking/using images of their child/ward. Images of children will not be used inappropriately or illegally. WSAS will only use images of children that are relevant to WSAS activities and will ensure that the child is suitable clothed in a manner than promotes WSAS.

WSAS requires the privacy of others to be respected and disallow the use of mobile phones, videos and cameras in rooms where athletes are dressing or inside changing areas, showers and toilets, etc.

### COMPLAINTS

WSAS will take all complaints seriously and handle them based on the principles of procedures fairness. The Grievance Handling Policy is included in the WSAS [Policies Document](#).

### PEOPLE YOU CAN TALK TO IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS

- ✓ Your parents/guardians or another trusted family member.
- ✓ WSAS office staff – office phone 02 4732 4977
  - Chief Executive Officer (Martin Bullock) – [martin@wsas.com.au](mailto:martin@wsas.com.au)
  - Athlete Program Manager (Steve Hewson) – [steve@wsas.com.au](mailto:steve@wsas.com.au)
  - Marketing & Communications Coordinator – [natalie@wsas.com.au](mailto:natalie@wsas.com.au)
- ✓ Squad staff (coaches or squad manager) – contact details are included on your WSAS program.

The Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) can provide impartial information about WSAS policies, processes and procedures. The MPIO can make contact with the appropriate person/organisation to resolve any concern or complaint and pass on pertinent information.

### IF YOU NEED HELP

If you or someone you know is in danger or needs immediate medical attention - please call **000**

**Kids Help Line** – anytime, any reason

Phone – **1800 55 1800** – the fastest way to talk with someone

Webchat available 24/7 – <https://kidshelpline.com.au/get-help/webchat-counselling/>

Email (checked between 8am to 10pm daily) – [counsellor@kidshelpline.com.au](mailto:counsellor@kidshelpline.com.au)

**Lifeline** – **13 11 14** – 24/7 crisis support

**Headspace** – Mental health support for 12 to 25-year olds.

If it's not an emergency, click [here](#) to go to headspace website and find your nearest centre to speak to one of their counsellors.