LISMORE THISTLES FOOTBALL CLUB INC.

CHILD SAFE – CHILD FRIENDLY POLICY

**Our commitment**

We want children and young people who participate in our club to have a safe and happy experience. We support and respect our children, young people, volunteers and members.

The policy is called “Lismore Thistles Football Club Child-safe Child-friendly Policy”.

Our policy guides volunteers and members on how to behave with children in our club focuses on how we can promote their participation in our club and make it safer for them.

Lismore Thistles Football Club supports the active participation of children in our club. We listen to their views, respect what they say and will endeavour to involve them when we make decisions, especially about matters that will directly affect them.

1. We promote respect, fairness and consideration for all volunteers and members.
2. All volunteers and members have a more senior officer assigned to support and supervise their work.
3. All new volunteers and members will receive a copy of the Child-safe Child-friendly Policy, Code of Conduct and Dealing with Complaints process.

**Lismore Thistles Football Club will maintain a rigorous and consistent recruitment, screening and selection process.**

* All volunteers where applicable will be required to apply for the “Working with Children” Check.
* These will be reviewed by the Child Protection Officer.
* The Child Protection Officer will maintain a Volunteer and Working with Children Register.

**Lismore Thistles Football Club Procedure for raising concerns**

* The Child Protection Officer is responsible for reporting any allegations of child abuse that occur in the club to Football Far North Coast, Office of the Children’s Guardian, the Department of Community Services (DoCS), and the NSW Police Service.
* If the Child Protection Officer is not available then the most senior person within the club should be notified.
* **Child Protection Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Position:** Child Protection Officer
* **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
1. We will hold regular information sessions for volunteers and members.
2. Our policies will be discussed at the beginning of the season for all new volunteers and members.
3. Children and parents joining our club will receive a copy of the Policy, Code of Conduct and Dealing with Complaints Process.
4. Parents will receive a copy of the Parent's Guide to Child Protection Issues.
5. Our policy will be communicated to members through the following means, club website, Facebook, club newsletters and available at the club.
6. Copies will be available at sign on days.
7. The policy and guidelines will be reviewed every two years and incorporate comments and suggestions from children and young people, parents, volunteers and members.

Policy No: 3

Review Date: 1/11/2017