



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why does ADG require all players under 18 to be supervised at sanctioned rounds, practices, and activities?

Under Sport Integrity Australia's National Integrity Framework and the AFDA Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy, anyone under 18 is legally considered a child. Safeguarding protocols must apply uniformly, regardless of maturity or independence, to protect minors in situations where unsupervised interaction with adults may occur.

Q: Why does ADG apply this standard to 15–17-year-olds when the PDGA only applies it to younger juniors?

Australian safeguarding standards cover all under-18s and take precedence over international sport-specific policies.

Q: What is required for under-18 participants?

- A signed Parental/Guardian Release Form on file
- Continuous supervision from a parent/guardian or approved adult at the event

Tournament Directors may refuse entry or remove a child if these conditions are not met.

Q: Does every volunteer need a WWCC?

The requirement for WWCC applies to individuals in a position of authority over a child, as defined by Sport Integrity Australia. It is the Tournament Director's responsibility to determine who falls into this category at their event, as they carry ultimate safeguarding responsibility. ADG will provide application guidance and reimburse volunteer costs where fees apply.

Q: Do card members playing with a child need working with children checks?

No, not unless they are in a position of authority over a child. Children must always be supervised by their approved adult, parent, or guardian on the course.

Q: Will media crew need a WWCC in each state they are covering an event?

Generally, individuals only need a valid WWCC in their home state. However, if volunteering or working in another state beyond a set number of days, a local WWCC may be required. In most cases, a home state WWCC is sufficient, but state-based regulations vary and it is not safe to make assumptions.

Q: Does the press need working with children checks?

Only if they're taking photographs. Press members just taking notes don't require checks, though professional press likely already have them.



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Q: Who verifies working with children checks?

ADG is ultimately responsible. ADG maintains an internal national register of all WWCCs for TDs and CSDs and verifies these checks before an event. Tournament directors must collect checks from people in positions of authority at their events and submit them to ADG.

Q: Who tracks the validity of the WWCC for volunteers at events?

ADG maintains a national register of verified WWCCs for all identified people in positions of authority. When sanctioning an event with ADG, the TD will identify those individuals. ADG will notify the TD and Child Safety Delegate when a volunteer needs to obtain or register their check with ADG.

Q: Can clubs run events without under-18s if they can't secure WWCC-approved organisers?

Yes. However, ADG strongly encourages clubs to include juniors wherever possible, as youth engagement is vital to the sport's growth.

Q: How does this align with Sport Integrity Australia's "high-risk context" guidance?

Disc golf is usually public and structured, but risks can arise (e.g., isolated holes, retrieving discs, travel). Mandatory supervision and parental involvement reduce these risks.

Q: Won't these rules make it harder for kids to stay in disc golf?

ADG recognises the challenges, especially for older juniors, but compliance with national standards is non-negotiable. ADG is committed to helping clubs and families keep juniors engaged.

Q: How will ADG support clubs with this policy?

- Training materials and online education sessions
- State-by-state WWCC guidance
- FAQs and resources on the ADG website
- Direct outreach to clubs before the policy takes effect (1 Jan 2026)
- Continuing important conversations surrounding safeguarding in our sport

Q: What happens if clubs breach the policy?

Consequences depend on severity and intent. They range from verbal conversations and written warnings to loss of affiliation and insurance access for wilful, repeated breaches. ADG's focus is on providing training and support rather than disciplinary action.

Q: What if a parent disagrees with the policy?

ADG welcomes feedback, but compliance with national safeguarding requirements is mandatory. Parents may also seek clarification directly from Sport Integrity Australia.



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Q: Do parents need to give media consent for their child?

Yes. The ADG release form includes media consent for photography and video at events. Families can opt out if they do not want their child photographed, and TDs/media must respect these requests. ADG will provide guidance to help clubs manage this.

Q: How is media consent and disposal implemented?

Photos of children should only be taken with consent and deleted if not used for approved purposes. Compliance relies on well-trained TDs who ensure the media understand their responsibilities.

Q: What about photos taken by members of the public?

The policy applies to official media. TDs can kindly ask general public members not to photograph children and explain why, but can't enforce this in public spaces. Contact authorities if there's an immediate risk.

Q: How will the new release form work?

The form will be available online (fillable and downloadable) with options for recurring events and media consent. Forms should be collected before the event, and personal information must be securely destroyed or de-identified once no longer required (generally 12–18 months after expiry).

Q: Can a parent supervise from a card in front or behind their child?

No. Parents must be on the same card as their child to provide active supervision. If this isn't possible, parents must arrange for another approved adult or guardian to supervise.

Q: Who ultimately decides if supervision is adequate?

The tournament director has final authority to determine if supervision is adequate for their specific course and situation, to keep children safe.

Q: Can TDs verify a youth worker/disability carer's clearance cards?

Yes. TDs can and should ask to see clearance cards to verify that the person is authorised to supervise the child, just as they would verify a legal guardian.

Q: Do Child Safety Delegates have to undertake any specific training?

TDs and Club Child Safety Delegates are required under our policy to complete Sport Integrity Australia's "Child Safeguarding in Sport" e-learning module. Additional resources are available on our website.





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Q: Do league and clinic organizers need to complete the Sport Integrity Australia e-learning?

Yes. Anyone hosting clinics or coaching activities for children must meet safeguarding compliance requirements, including the e-learning course. The course is also open to the public.

Q: Do volunteers at working bees need working with children checks?

Only for official ADG sanctioned activities with insurance coverage. Working bee volunteers typically aren't in positions of authority over children, so it's at TD discretion for non-sanctioned activities.

Q: How do TDs know if children have registered via ADG?

ADG is working to make this more apparent in registration forms before next year. Currently, TDs must use best judgment and collect parental release forms when they become aware someone is under 18.

Q: Will ADG provide a standard child safety policy for clubs?

ADG's policy provides a framework for clubs to follow. Clubs don't need to create separate child safety policies, but should incorporate child-safe practices. ADG will provide a lost child procedure template in the resources section of the website.

Q: How are policy amendments communicated?

Material changes are emailed to all ADG members. Procedural changes go through child safety delegates. Minor amendments are updated on the website with clear dating.

Q: Will there be an official breach reporting form?

Yes, ADG will provide a template. The priority is fast, detailed reporting to the TD, child safety delegate, and ADG (after contacting emergency services if necessary).

Q: Does ADG have an API?

Not yet, but ADG is implementing a CRM system that will include API capabilities for clubs to access information like WWCC register and member details.

Q: What is the overall rationale?

To ensure:

- Children are safe at all ADG activities
- Parents/guardians remain engaged in supervision
- ADG complies with national safeguarding standards
- Junior participation continues safely and sustainably

