



POLICY FOR INTERACTING WITH CHILDREN

Version Control, Change History and Distribution

Version Control

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Endorsed by:	MDGCC Board of Directors
Date endorsed:	
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Change History

Amendment date	Version No.	Page No(s) replaced.	Description of change

Distribution

1. Included in the Murray Downs Golf & Country Club Policy Manual
2. Digital copies provided to all Board Members and Staff

Roles and Responsibilities

JOB TITLE	NAMES
Chief Executive Officer	Greg Roberts
Operations Manager	Greg Ferguson
Golf Professional	Lisa Jean
Junior Golf Committee Chairman	Ash Free
Pro Shop Manager	Blaede Hawkins

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1. INTRODUCTION

Murray Downs Golf & Country Club (hereafter referred to as 'the Club') is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people who participate in golf or bowls and access golf or bowls services.

2. PURPOSE

This Policy was developed to provide Coaches and other personnel in positions of authority guidelines on how to maintain appropriate boundaries when interacting with children.

3. APPLICATION

Coaches and other personnel in positions of authority, whether they are operating in a paid or unpaid/voluntary capacity in the Club should maintain clear physical, emotional, social, and sexual boundaries.

4. PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES

- Use drills to develop fitness, not as a punishment.
- Only use physical contact that is appropriate for the development of a particular skill and has the permission of the athlete.
- Work within sight of others at all times.

5. EMOTIONAL BOUNDARIES

- Use positive feedback on performance, not negative feedback about the person.
- Be encouraging and avoid put-downs.

6. SOCIAL BOUNDARIES

- Attend sport related events such as sponsorship and fundraising events, celebrations, and annual meetings, but do not socialise with athletes outside sporting functions.
- Do not socialise with athletes via personal social media (Juniors can follow your social media, but you cannot follow them and/or follow back).

7. SEXUAL BOUNDARIES

- Do not have sexual relationships with athletes you are coaching.
- Do not touch athletes in ways likely to make them feel uncomfortable.

8. MINIMISE PHYSICAL CONTACT

Generally, physical contact with players or participants should be to:

- Develop sport skills
- Give sports massage
- Treat an injury
- Prevent or respond to an injury
- Meet the specific requirements of the sport

All physical contact by personnel should fulfil the following criteria:

- Physical contact should be appropriate for the development of a sport skill/s
- Permission from the player or participant should always be sought
- Players or participants should be congratulated or comforted in public, not in an isolated setting.

9. AVOID BEING ALONE WITH A CHILD

To protect yourself and the child from risk:

- Do not isolate yourself and a child and avoid being alone with any particular child.
- Do not provide transportation for a child unless accompanied by another adult.
- If a child approaches you and wants to talk to you privately about a matter, do so in an open area and in sight of other adults (e.g., other coaches, officials, or parents/guardians)
- Before going into change rooms knock or announce that you will be coming in. Try to have at least one adult with you in a change room with children.

10. DECLARATION

I, _____ have read and understood this Policy and will abide by it as a staff member and or junior member of Murray Downs Golf & Country Club.
Signature:
Date:
If under 18 year so age, parent/guardian:
Signature:
Date: