



HARASSMENT-FREE SPORT

Sporting organisations aim to provide sport for everyone that is safe, fun and fair. However, despite all the hard work, sometimes it doesn't go to plan. This leads to frustration, anger and disappointment and even to people dropping out of their sport. In some cases unresolved issues can end up in court in long and expensive court battles.

The Australian Sports Commission's Harassment-Free Sport Strategy aims to help sporting organisations prevent and deal effectively with issues surrounding harassment, discrimination, abuse and child protection in sport. A key part of the Strategy is the conduct of Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) courses and related workshops.

Member Protection Information Officer Course

**Tuesday 5th, 12th and 19th May 2009 from 6pm – 10 pm
at Suncorp Stadium**

MPIOs are the first point of contact for members in a sporting organisation with issues, questions, complaints or concerns about harassment, discrimination, child abuse or other related inappropriate behaviour in sport. MPIOs listen, offer moral support, and provide information and options to help resolve the issue - they don't become involved directly in investigating or actually resolving conflicts.

The **MPIO Course** provides people with practical skills, knowledge, understanding and confidence to receive, and help people with, complaints. The course covers: what is and isn't unlawful discrimination and harassment; all forms of child abuse including recognising the signs and symptoms of abuse, how to respond to disclosures, and how and who to report concerns; the principles of complaint handling; and communication skills. The skills obtained are life skills and can also assist you in your work and home life.

To participate in the course you need to have:

- been nominated by or have the support of your sporting organisation
- knowledge of your sport's Member Protection Policy (MPP) or other similar policies
- completed the **Play by The Rules** child protection online course (www.playbytherules.net.au)
- read the sections on the Play by the Rules website on 'About Complaints', 'Managing Risk – Administrators' and 'Legal Stuff'.



Course Details

Places in the course are limited. Please complete and send the registration information presented below by **24 April 2009** to:

Asheley Ings
Acting Senior Industry Analyst
Sport and Recreation Services
Department of Communities
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Phone: (07) 3237 9836
Fax: (07) 322 58493

Dates: 5, 12 and 19 May 2009

Time: 6pm – 10pm

Fee: Free

Venue: Suncorp Stadium
40 Castlemaine Street, Milton
Terrace Grill North Room
Level 5 (West Stand)

Arrangements: There is unrestricted parking on Castlemaine Street, Milton from 5pm.

Light refreshments including sandwiches, fruit, tea/coffee and juice will be provided at 7.30pm.

Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

W: _____ E-mail: _____

Organisation: _____

Position/Role: _____

Is your organisation supportive of you undertaking this course? Yes No

Have you read your organisation's relevant policies (e.g. MPP)? Yes No

Have you completed the Play by the Rules online modules? Yes No