

# Child Protection and the NSW Working With Children Check

## Information for SLSNSW Members

### What is the Working With Children Check?

A Working With Children Check (WWCC) involves a national police check and review of findings of misconduct involving children, and the result is either a clearance to work with children for five years, or a bar against working with children. A Check is a prerequisite for anyone in child-related work.

### Do Surf Life Saving Members need a Working With Children Check?

All NSW Surf Life Saving (SLS) Club members and employees (over the age of 18 years) require a WWCC from April 2015 if they are undertaking a child-related role. However, there are a number of exemptions, which are explained below.

### What roles within Surf Life Saving constitute child-related work?

Some of the roles within SLS that require a WWCC include:

- Member Protection and Information Officers / Grievance Officers
- Junior Activity Chairperson
- Age Manager / Age Manager Assistant
- Water Safety personnel for Nippers / Surf Education programs
- Youth / Rookie / YEP Coordinator / Assistant
- Sport Coaches for under 18 only squads/teams
- TAFS / Program Assistants for under 18 only groups

### What are the exemptions for the Working With Children Check?

The exemptions under the WWCC which are most relevant to SLS include:

- Children (under the age of 18)
- Administrative, clerical, maintenance or ancillary work not ordinarily involving contact with children for extended periods
- Very short term work: not more than a total of 5 days in a calendar year
- Volunteering by a parent or close relative with a team, program or other activity in which their child usually participates or is a team member
- Co-workers and supervisors where a child works

### What happens if I do not get a clearance following a WWCC?

Any member whose online verification returns a 'Barred' or 'Interim Barred' result must not work in a child-related role. If this happens the Club has the option of either dismissing you, suspending you from child-related work pending the outcome of an appeal, or transferring you to a non child-related role within the club (although they are under no legal obligation to find an alternative position for a barred worker).

### Do I still need to complete a SLSNSW Member Protection Declaration form even if I have a Working With Children Check?

Yes, this form declares whether you have other relevant criminal charges, anti-doping violations, and any other matters which could constitute risk to members, employees, volunteers, athletes or reputation.

For more information visit [surflifesaving.com.au](http://surflifesaving.com.au) or [kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au](http://kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au)



## NEW SOUTH WALES

### How to get a Working With Children Check

Those who already have a WWCC Number:

Provide the WWCC Number, your full name & date of birth to your Club for online verification

Those who do not already have a WWCC:

Complete the [online application form](#) (once the form has been submitted an Application Number will be received)

Take the Application Number and proof of identify to a NSW Motor Registry, Government Access Centre, or Service NSW office

Provide the Application Number to your SLSC

If you are cleared to work with children you will need to renew your WWCC every 5 years.

*WWCC are free for volunteers!*