



LITTLE ATHLETICS QUEENSLAND

ABN: 41 142 389 563

POST OFFICE BOX 355  
SUNNYBANK Q 4109

e-mail: [info@laq.org.au](mailto:info@laq.org.au)  
website: [www.laq.org.au](http://www.laq.org.au)  
Ph (07) 3892 9400

# Little Athletics Queensland

## Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

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May 2026

### Our Commitment

Little Athletics Queensland (LAQ) is the peak body for Little Athletics in Queensland, supporting 84 volunteer-run clubs. The safety, wellbeing and empowerment of every child and young person in our sport is our highest priority.

LAQ is committed to full compliance with the Child Safe Organisations Act 2024 (Qld) and the 10 Child Safe Standards regulated by the Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC). We embrace these Standards as a reflection of our values, not merely a legal obligation. Keeping children safe requires a genuine culture of child safety at every level of our organisation, from the LAQ Board and staff through to our member clubs, coaches, officials and volunteers.

### Legislative Context

Sport and recreation organisations delivering activities primarily for children must commence compliance with the [Child Safe Organisations Act 2024](#) from 1 April 2026. From 1 July 2026, LAQ will also be subject to the Reportable Conduct Scheme, which introduces legal obligations to report and investigate allegations of harm involving staff and volunteers.

### Our Existing Frameworks

LAQ has an established foundation of policies that support child safety. As part of our commitment to the [Child Safe Standards](#), we will review and strengthen each of these documents. This review will also take into account the policies and frameworks of [Australian Athletics](#), with whom LAQ has recently become an affiliate member, to ensure alignment across the whole sport.

- [Child Safeguarding and Young People Policy](#): Our foundational policy establishing obligations across the organisation to protect children from harm.
- [Code of Conduct](#): Expected standards of behaviour for all staff, volunteers, coaches, officials, parents and spectators involved in LAQ activities.
- [Blue Card Policy](#): Screening procedures for all staff and volunteers who work with children, in accordance with Queensland legislation.
- [LAQ Risk Management Framework](#): Includes documents governing risk across all risk types at LAQ; including items such as the Child Safe Standards Framework.

## Commitment to the 10 Child Safe Standards

LAQ commits to embedding each of the 10 Child Safe Standards across our governance, culture and operations:

- **Standard 1:** Child safety is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture, with active Board oversight.
- **Standard 2:** Children and young people are informed of their rights, participate in decisions and are taken seriously.
- **Standard 3:** Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
- **Standard 4:** Equity is upheld and diverse needs are respected, with inclusive and culturally safe practices across all clubs.
- **Standard 5:** People working with children are suitable and supported through robust screening, induction and supervision.
- **Standard 6:** Complaints and concerns are managed through child-focused, accessible and transparent processes.
- **Standard 7:** Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge and skills to keep children safe through ongoing training.
- **Standard 8:** Physical and online environments minimise opportunities for harm through regular risk assessment.
- **Standard 9:** Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is continuously monitored, reviewed and improved.
- **Standard 10:** Policies and procedures are documented, accessible and understood by those responsible for child safety.

## Our Implementation Commitments

LAQ will:

- ✓ Complete the [QFCC self-assessment tool](#) to identify gaps and priority actions across the 10 Standards.
- ✓ Develop and adopt a Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy as a foundational governance document.
- ✓ Review and update all relevant policies, incorporating alignment with Australian Athletics frameworks following unification.
- ✓ Establish a Board-reported implementation plan with clear responsibilities and timelines.
- ✓ Provide training, resources and volunteer education to assist implementation of child-safe practices at affiliated clubs.
- ✓ Provide child safety training to LAQ staff, with guidance and resources made available to club volunteers and officials.
- ✓ Develop accessible, child-friendly information about our commitment for athletes and families.
- ✓ Prepare for compliance with the Reportable Conduct Scheme ahead of 1 July 2026.

## A Shared Responsibility

Child safety is a shared responsibility. Every person connected with Little Athletics Queensland, whether a Board member, staff member, volunteer, coach, official, or parent has a role to play. We ask everyone in our community to uphold this commitment and to speak up if they have any concerns.

LAQ acknowledges the Universal Principle under the Act, recognising the importance of cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and is committed to respectful and inclusive practices across all our clubs and programs.

For further information, please contact the LAQ office.

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Endorsed by:



**Christopher Davis**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Ross Pallentine**  
President, Board of Directors



**Jeremy Peck**  
Chair, Finance Audit & Risk Committee



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