



Child Safety Policy for Referees

Overview

This policy document outlines the safety protocols and guidelines for the accommodation, sleeping arrangements, behaviours, and transportation of child referees participating in a week-long event. The safety and well-being of all child referees are of utmost importance, and this policy is designed to ensure a secure and supportive environment throughout the event.

1. Scope

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, chaperones, and any other individuals responsible for the care, supervision, or interaction with child referees during the event.

2. Definitions

- **Child Referees:** Individuals under the age of 18 participating as referees in the event.
- **Chaperones:** Vetted Adults assigned to supervise child referees during the event, including during transportation and accommodation.
- **Event Staff:** All individuals involved in organizing, facilitating, or managing the event.
- **Vetted:**
 1. All persons who have gone through a process to hold that position and approved by their appropriate state body.
 2. The Process will include all details added to the ACJBC WWC Listing which includes the providing of two references and then an approval provided by state body administrator for that area.

3. Accommodation and Sleeping Arrangements

3.1. Supervised Accommodation

- Child referees will be accommodated in supervised, secure environments. Accommodations will be pre-approved and meet all local safety and security regulations.
- Only authorized personnel, including assigned chaperones, are permitted in the accommodation areas.
- Only allotted persons to rooms are allowed in that room and all other face to face meetings must be in open public meeting area's

3.2. Gender-Specific Arrangements

- Separate sleeping arrangements will be provided based on gender. Boys and girls will have different rooms or dormitories, with secure access to each area.
- Adults are not permitted to sleep in the same room as child referees unless they are the child's legal guardian and have received prior approval from the event organizer.

3.3. Room Assignments

- Child referees will be assigned rooms with peers of the same gender and similar age group.
- A minimum of two child referees per room is required to avoid one-on-one situations between a child and an adult.

3.4. Privacy and Boundaries

- Respect for privacy is essential. No one, including chaperones and event staff, should enter a room without knocking and receiving permission.
- Cameras, mobile phones, and any recording devices are prohibited in sleeping areas and bathrooms.

3.5. Night-Time Supervision

- Chaperones will conduct regular check-ins during the night to ensure the safety and well-being of all child referees.
- A designated chaperone will be available on-site 24/7 to handle emergencies or concerns.

4. Behavioral Expectations

4.1. Code of Conduct

- All event participants, including child referees, must adhere to the event's code of conduct, which emphasizes respect, inclusion, and safety.
- Any form of bullying, harassment, or inappropriate behavior is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate disciplinary action.

4.2. Adult-Child Interaction

- One-on-one interactions between adults and child referees should be avoided. If necessary, these interactions must occur in a public or easily observable area.
- Physical contact between adults and child referees should be minimal and appropriate for the situation (e.g., a handshake or high-five).

4.3. Reporting Concerns

- Any concerns about the behavior of an adult or child referee should be reported immediately to the event's designated Child Safety Officer.
- All reports will be handled with confidentiality and urgency, following appropriate protocols to ensure the safety of all participants.

5. Transportation

5.1. Supervised Travel

- All transportation arrangements for child referees will be organized and supervised by authorized event staff.
- Child referees will not travel alone; they must be accompanied by chaperones or travel in groups.

5.2. Safe Transport Vehicles

- Only vehicles that meet safety standards and are operated by licensed, vetted drivers will be used for transporting child referees.
- Seat belts must be worn at all times, and vehicle capacities will not be exceeded.

5.3. Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures

- Designated drop-off and pick-up points will be communicated to parents/guardians before the event.
- A sign-in and sign-out procedure will be implemented to ensure that child referees are released only to authorized individuals.

5.4. Emergency Procedures

- In the event of an emergency during transportation, the driver and chaperones will follow the established emergency protocols.
- A list of emergency contacts for all child referees will be kept on hand by the event staff at all times.

6. Training and Awareness

6.1. Staff and Volunteer Training

- All event staff, volunteers, and chaperones will receive training on child safety protocols, including recognizing signs of abuse, proper interaction guidelines, and emergency response procedures.
- Regular briefings will be conducted to ensure everyone is familiar with the policy and their roles in maintaining a safe environment.

6.2. Communication with Parents/Guardians

- Parents/guardians will be informed of the safety measures in place and will receive contact information for the event's Child Safety Officer.
- Regular updates will be provided to parents/guardians throughout the event, particularly if any incidents or concerns arise.

7. Monitoring and Compliance

7.1. Policy Enforcement

- The Child Safety Officer, in collaboration with event organizers, will be responsible for monitoring compliance with this policy.

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- Any breaches of this policy will be investigated promptly, and appropriate action will be taken.

7.2. Review and Feedback

- This policy will be reviewed and updated as necessary after the event to incorporate feedback and any lessons learned.
- Participants, parents/guardians, and staff will be encouraged to provide feedback on the effectiveness of the safety measures.

8. Contact Information

For any questions or concerns regarding this policy or child safety during the event, please contact:

- **Child Safety Officer:** [Name]
- **Phone:** [Phone Number]
- **Email:** [Email Address]

This policy is effective as of [Date] and will be reviewed before the event commences.

Approved by:

[Event Organizer's Name]

[Title]

[Date]