All **Lake Wellington Yacht Club Inc** members are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children.

In particular people who work with children directly through the Sailability program need clarity about their special obligations and are required to abide them by:

* upholding **Lake Wellington Yacht Club** Statement of Commitment to Child Safety at all times
* taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse
* treating everyone with respect
* listening & responding to the views & concerns of children, particularly if they are telling that they or another child has been abused and/or are worried about their safety or another’s safety
* promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal children (for example, by never questioning an Aboriginal child’s self-identification)
* promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds (for example, by having a zero tolerance of discrimination)
* promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability (for example, during personal care activities)
* ensuring as far as practicable that adults are not left alone with a child
* reporting any child safety concerns and/or allegations of child abuse to **Lake Wellington Yacht Club** Child Safety Officers Commodore, Vice Commodore, Secretary and Sailability leadership, and ensure any allegation to reported to the police or child protection
* if an allegation of child abuse is made, ensure as quickly that the child(ren) are safe
* encouraging children to ‘have a say’ and participate in all relevant organisational activities where possible, especially on issues that are important to them.

**Staff and volunteers must not:**

* develop any ‘special’ relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children)
* exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical (for example inappropriate sitting on laps.)
* put children at risk of abuse (for example, by locking doors)
* do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes
* engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children
* use inappropriate language in the presence of children
* express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of children
* discriminate against any child, including because of culture, race, ethnicity or disability
* ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse.

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to one of the following **Lake Wellington Yacht Club** Child Safety Officers:

Commodore,

Vice Commodore,

Secretary,

Sailability Leadership.

**If you believe a child is at immediate risk of abuse phone 000.**