
To: Basketball ACT (“BACT”) Clubs, Schools and Other Stakeholders
From: BACT
Subject: Working With Vulnerable People (“WWVP”) Registrations
Date: 24 August 2015

Memorandum

INTRODUCTION

If you are a Community Club or a School Club with underage or vulnerable participants, you need to be aware of your obligations under the *Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011*.

Community Clubs and School Clubs MUST be compliant by 7 November 2015 or your organisation may be subject to penalties under the Act.

WHO NEEDS A BACKGROUND CHECK?

Any person in your Community Club or School Club with regular contact with underage or vulnerable people needs a Background Check (WWVP Registration).

Pursuant to the Act, the requirement for Background Checks applies to people in regulated activities who have contact with vulnerable people.

A club or association providing membership/activities for children or vulnerable people is a regulated activity (schedule 1.24). This is currently being phased in, with registrations required to be completed by 7 November 2015.

Community Clubs and School Clubs should factor in the time taken for Background Check registrations to be processed (in order to satisfy the 7 November 2015 deadline).

Vulnerable people include children under the age of 18, people with disabilities, persons for whom English is not their first language and persons with social or financial disadvantage. Contact includes physical contact, oral contact (even by telephone) or written contact (even by email).

The following persons are exempt:

- Children under 16;
- Persons who spend less than 3 days in a 4 week period (except where an overnight camp is involved) in the regulated activity;
- Persons who spend less than 7 days in any 12 months period;
- Close relatives (e.g. parents or cousins attending a training session, for example in a supervisory capacity);
- People engaged in the activity in the same capacity (e.g. teammates or colleagues);
- Lawyers and health professionals.

If you are unsure whether you need to have a Background Check, complete this online test:

http://www.ors.act.gov.au/community/working_with_vulnerable_people_wwvp/do_i_need_to_apply_for_a_working_with_vulnerable_people_registration_and_how_to_apply/am_i_required_to_be_registered

The cost of a background check is \$73.00 for employees and free for volunteers.

People who are waiting on the confirmation of their registration should be supervised until their registration comes through.

Anyone who receives a negative notice may not have contact with vulnerable people, whether supervised or unsupervised.

More information is available here:

http://www.ors.act.gov.au/resources/attachments/A_Guide_to_Working_with_Vulnerable_People_in_the_ACT.pdf