



## Memo

TO:	Association Secretaries
FROM:	Megan Simpson
PHONE:	(02) 9951 5000
CC:	Carolyn Campbell
RE:	New Working With Children Check
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Netball NSW are currently receiving a high number of queries from Associations, Clubs and members regarding the requirements for complying with the new Working with Children Check and any additional NNSW requirements in terms of child safe best practice.

Further to the NNSW Memo circulated on 18 June 2013, Netball NSW would like to refresh and provide an update to Association's on the roll out of the new Working With Children Check (WWCC) which commenced on **June 15<sup>th</sup> 2013**. **In particular we would like to draw to your attention to a change in the WWCC phase in period for Sport – please see Section 2 below.**

The WWCC was released by the Office of Communities – Commission for Children and Young People following the publication of the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012 and the Child Protection (Working With Children) Regulation 2012.

### 1. Club and Association Responsibilities

If Club's and Association's are employing anyone new (as a paid worker) as of 15<sup>th</sup> June 2013, they will need to ensure the individual has applied for the WWCC and they present the Club / Association with a clearance number for verification prior to starting in their role.

### 2. What about existing paid workers / volunteers?

Volunteers and existing paid workers in child related positions do not need to apply for a check until the phase in period. The Office of the Children's Guardian has recently made some changes to the implementation of the New WWCC in relation to sports sector volunteers and paid staff. **The new sport phase in period will be 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016.**

Netball NSW would recommend that all Clubs and Associations comply with the procedures and ensure the checks on all paid workers and volunteers within Clubs and Associations are completed as early as possible within the phase in period.



**p.** 02 9951 5000

**f.** 02 9951 5099

**w.** [netballnsw.com](http://netballnsw.com)

Anne Clark Centre,

Church St, Lidcombe NSW 2141

PO Box 396, Lidcombe NSW 1825



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We would also recommend that all paid workers and volunteers continue to complete the Member Protection Declaration yearly, which can be found in the Netball NSW Member Protection Policy – Part B (WWCC Requirements); Attachment B2.

More information on the phase in period can be found in on the [www.kids.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au) website in *New Working With Children Check - Factsheet: Phase in schedule*.

The new WWCC is a legislative procedure that all organisations have to comply with, however clubs and associations should still endeavour to implement additional child safe procedures. Supporting documents and guidelines can be found at <http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/Working-with-children/Become-a-Childsafe-Organisation>.

### 3. Who needs a Working With Children Check?

Only people in child related work / child related volunteering need to apply for a Working With Children Check. Child related work means regular face-to-face contact with children under 18 in a child related sector or role.

More information can be found on the [www.kids.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au) website in *New Working With Children Check - Factsheet: What is child related work?*

### 4. What are the fees?

Paid workers will need to pay \$80 for the check. Volunteers will receive the check for free.

### 5. Exemptions to the new check

There are a number of exemptions to the new Working With Children Check. For details and definitions regarding the exemptions please refer to *New Working With Children Check - Factsheet: Exemptions* on the [www.kids.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au) website.

The most notable exemption is as per the Child Protection (Working with Children) Regulation 2013 clause 7(3):

*'...the work is not child-related work if the work is work as a referee, umpire, linesperson or otherwise as a sporting official or a grounds person, and the work does not ordinarily involve contact with children for extended periods without other adults being present.'*



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### 6. How can I find out more information about the New Working with Children Check?

There are a number of factsheets available on the Office of Communities – Commission for Children and Young People website  
[www.kids.nsw.gov.au/Working-with-children/New-Working-with-Children-Check](http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/Working-with-children/New-Working-with-Children-Check).

You can also book into one of the information sessions being held by the NSW Office of Communities - Commission for Children and Young People, details here  
<http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/Seminars-and-events/Working-with-Children-Check-Information-Sessions/Working-with-Children-Check>

We would be grateful if Association's could please communicate and promote this information to all affiliated clubs.



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