

7 LESSONS FOR SPORT FROM THE ROYAL COMMISSION'S REPORT INTO CHILD ABUSE

1

Listen to the voices of children and young people in your organisation. Talk with them about what makes them feel safe.

2

Recognise that there is no 'typical perpetrator' or place where abuse occurs while at the same time understand that some situations are more high risk than others, for example, where a male coach regularly meets with a female athlete in obscured environments.

3

Understand your risk factors. Discuss them and write them down. Be aware of the types of relationships that exist at your club and watch out for any grooming indicators.

4

Talk about culture. Identify what behaviours and words dictate and shape culture at your club. Are they a risk factor?

5

Create an environment and expectation that supports children and young people to regularly discuss what makes them feel uncomfortable. Part of that involves setting expectations for adults to regularly monitor and support the wellbeing of children and young people.

6

Proper governance structures and leadership that prioritizes child safety are important factors in keeping children and young people safe.

7

Read the Royal Commission final report into sport, recreation, arts, culture, community and hobby groups.

For the full article go to:

<https://www.playbytherules.net.au/resources/articles/royal-commission>