

AusCycling

# **Incident Prevention: Child safe risk management and high-risk activities**

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(Director of Safe Sport Solutions)

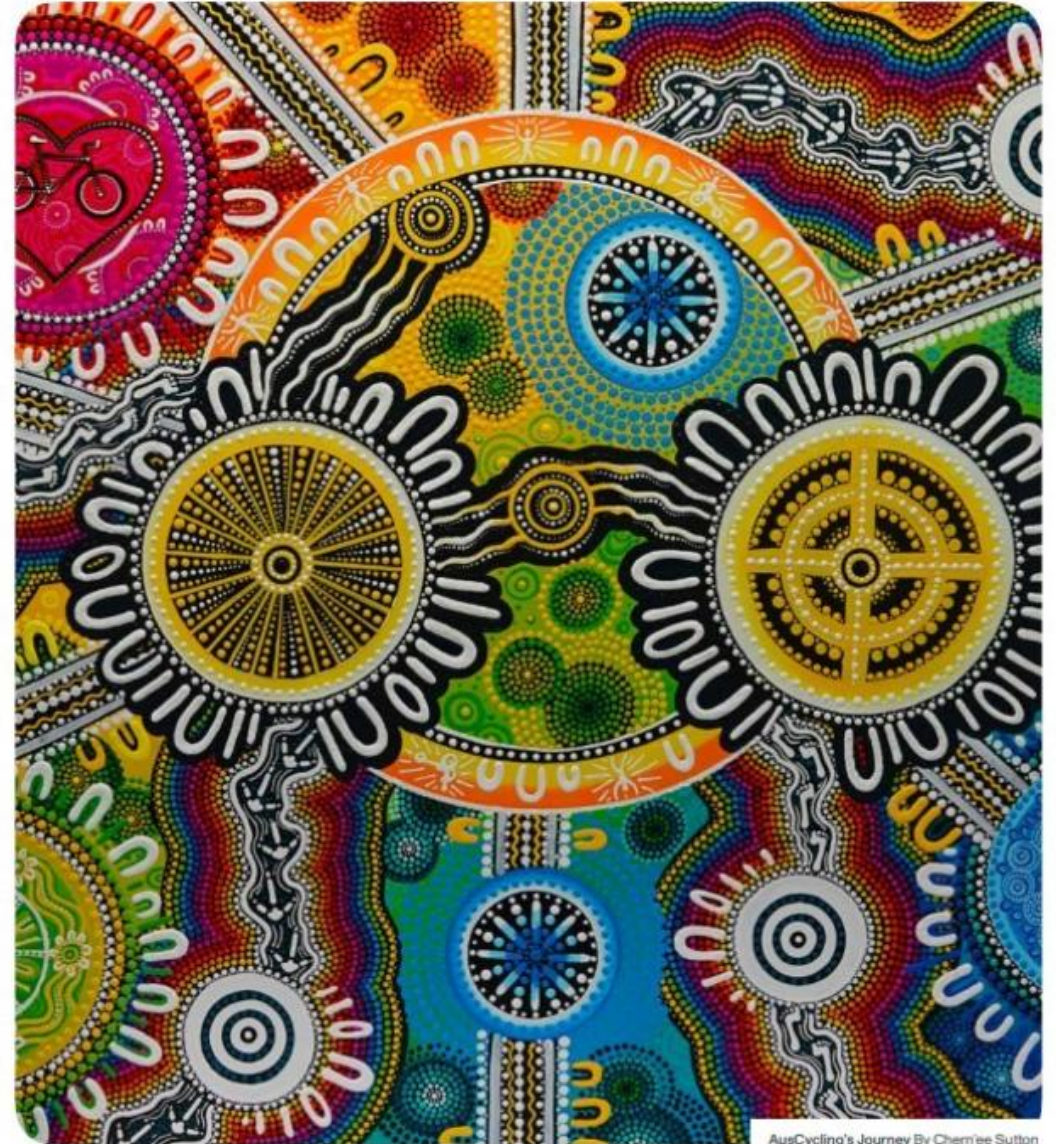


## Acknowledgement to Country

AusCycling acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we meet

We recognise and celebrate their spiritual and ongoing connection to culture and Country.

We pay our respects to the Elders past present and emerging who hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hope of First Nations people



AusCycling's Journey By Chem'ee Sutton



## Content Warning



Call 1300 22 4636



Call 13 11 14 >  
24/7 Crisis Support



1800 55 1800

Mental Health Line  
**1800 011 511** 



# Agenda

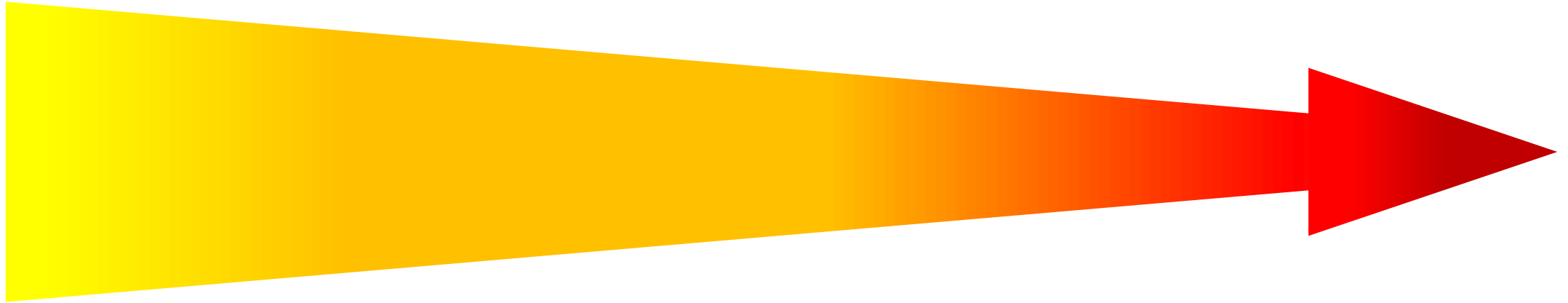
- Activities with increased risk
  - Travel
  - Accommodation
  - Online Communication
  - Pathways Athletes
- Incident Prevention
  - Child Safe Risk
  - Developing a Child Safe Risk Management Plan

# Activities with increased risk

## Higher levels of sport can see risk increase

Community Athletes

Pathways Athletes



More hours with coaches and staff  
Less family involvement  
Longer travel and overnight stays  
The adults you work with are powerful and highly respected

Pressure environment  
You feel like your career depends on the person you need to complain about  
Feel like there is more to lose if you speak up

# Activities with increased risk: travel and accommodation

## Scenario 1

- A child tells you that they want to change to a different room in the hotel.
- They tell you another child is accessing adult streaming websites on their phone.
- They are not only filming themselves but also filming other children in their bedrooms.

## Scenario 2

- A sporting body receives complaints that a coach is travelling alone with athletes.
- Upon reviewing their travel history and bookings, they discover that the coach is staying in the same cabin as the athletes.



## Scenario 3

- A group of children ask you if they can go up the road to the store to grab some Powerade.
- It doesn't seem risky and isn't far - they shouldn't be gone long.
- Another child informs you that the children have been organising to meet up with someone they've been messaging on snapchat.

## Scenario 4

- A club is travelling with boys and girls. They have both a male and female chaperone accordingly.
- A female athlete is injured and rushed to hospital, accompanied by the female adult. The male adult now finds himself alone looking after the boys and girls overnight.



## Public scandal and damaged lives

Former local gymnastics coach faces child sex charge

**Aths Australia 'sorry' as coach of Olympic gold medallists accused of years of abuse, grooming**

**Coaches booted from Maadi Cup after 'unacceptable conduct'**

Sydney Swans caught up in multimillion-dollar legal battle over sexual abuse to Academy player

**Tennis NZ sends U16 athletes home from Australia after alleged bedroom incident**

# Setting Standards

## What are your bare minimums in terms of risk?



### Supervision

- Minimum 2 adults responsible for overnight supervision per team (1:8).
- These might not include coaches.
- Be clear about these arrangements in advance, verify WWCCs.
- Even adults designated as not supervising might be called on to do duties in a pinch, so should still be fully prepared.
- Make sure supervising adults know the dietary/medical needs of the children.

### Accommodation

- Adults and athletes in separate hotel rooms
- Adult rooms close to athlete rooms (check with accommodation about room locations)
- Separate beds for each child
- Consider age and gender when assigning sleeping arrangements
- Clear rules for athletes and coaches

### Transport

- Avoid a single adult travelling with the team
- If using a third-party driver, ensure you still provide a supervising adult(s)
- Plan where to stop for meals (consider dietary requirements)
- Maintain these standards for travel from accommodation to events as well



### Planning:

- Supervision.
- Accommodation.
- Travel to accommodation and to events.
- WWCCs, consents, medical/diet and emergency contacts.
- Information night for travelling party (coaches/managers, support staff, athletes, families). Set expectations.
- Do you have athletes or families that require special arrangements or consideration?
- Plan for unlikely but possible situations.

### The event:

- Follow rules.
- Ensure athletes know who to go to if they feel unsafe.
- Ensure athletes are encouraged to speak up.
- Rules and information pinned to each hotel room door (including who to report breaches to).
- Consider rules around cell phones – scheduled time for calls home, lights out no phone, no photos in rooms.

### Aftermath:

- Don't delay if you need to report something – look for support.
- Review how the trip went.
- Survey athletes, families, and volunteers.

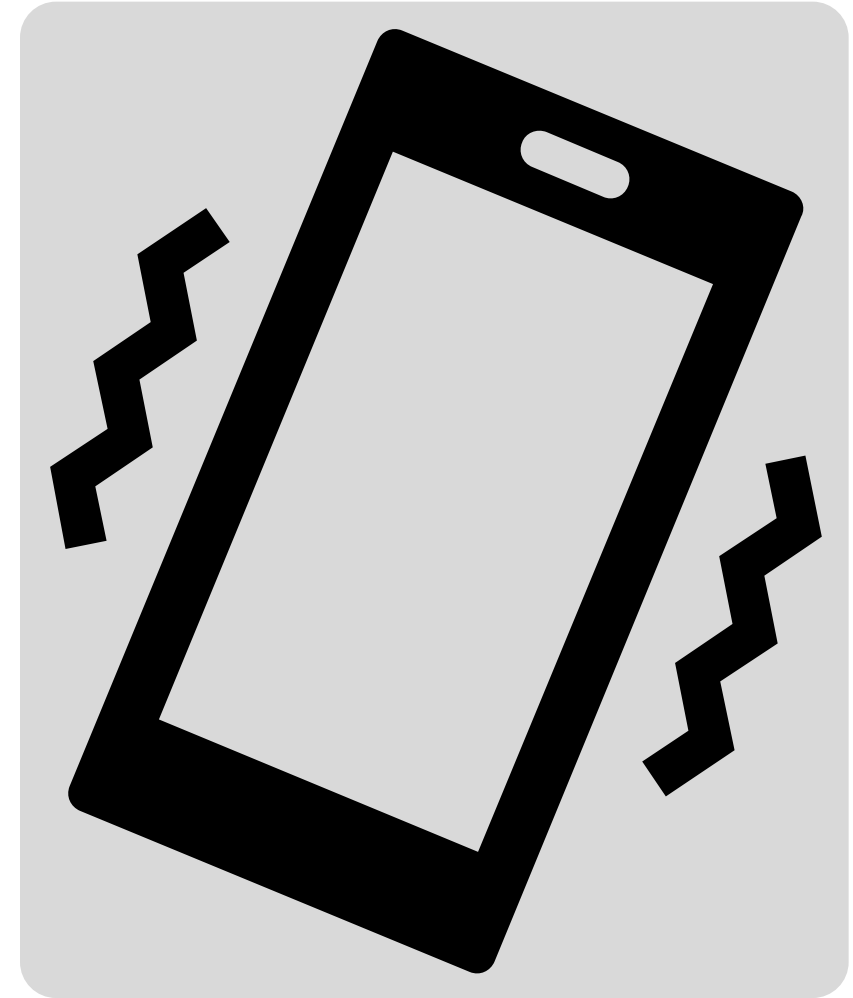
Activities with elevated  
risk: online communication  
with children and families

## Social media and online safety

Photography

Social Media

Communication





# Photography

Members of the public

Families and supporters

Club promotional photos

Photography for instructive purposes

Changing areas and private spaces



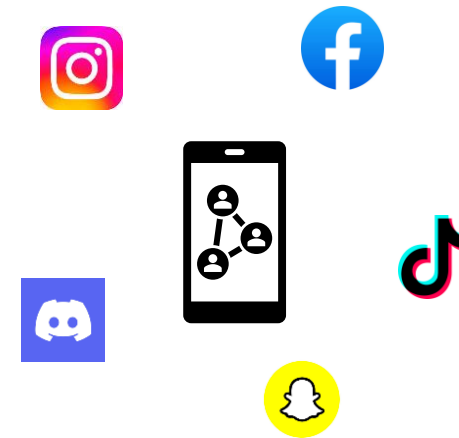
## Social Media

Club social media

Personal staff and volunteer accounts

Families and supporters

Athletes





## Communicating with athletes

- The 2-deep policy
- Avoid 1-on-1 messages and calls
- Where possible, contact parents/carers rather than children
- While not ideal, group chats are safer than one-on-one - but you should always include other adults

Across sport, the use of social media groups for sports teams is much too prevalent.

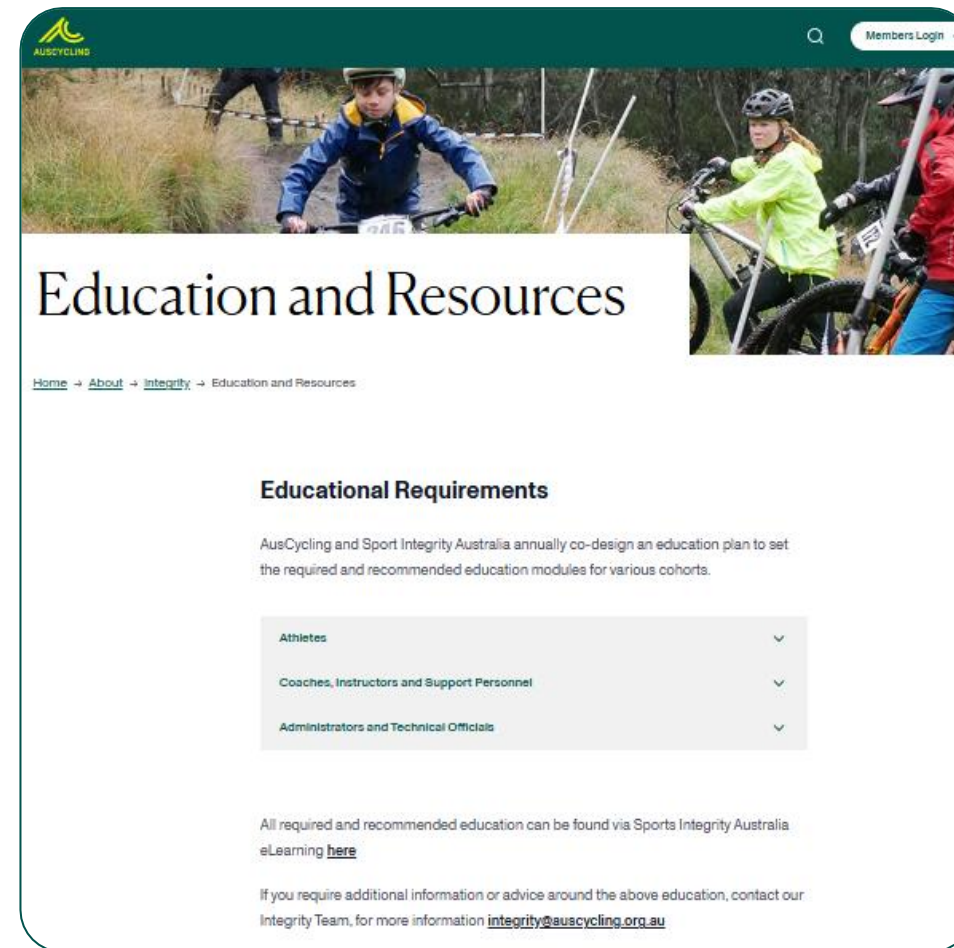
## Simple rules for coaches and volunteers

We've developed a poster for your club to display – this will send a clear message that 1-on-1 messages are not allowed.

All communication should be visible to the club (and families).

All communications should use approved communication methods.

Emergency situations are different (but should be documented and reported to management).



**Education and Resources**

Home → About → Integrity → Education and Resources

### Educational Requirements

AusCycling and Sport Integrity Australia annually co-design an education plan to set the required and recommended education modules for various cohorts.

- Athletes
- Coaches, Instructors and Support Personnel
- Administrators and Technical Officials

All required and recommended education can be found via Sports Integrity Australia eLearning [here](#)

If you require additional information or advice around the above education, contact our Integrity Team, for more information [integrity@auscycling.org.au](mailto:integrity@auscycling.org.au)

## Sport specific apps



If your club finds group chats particularly useful, there are better options than WhatsApp and Facebook Messenger that are free to use.

- Spond
- Stack Team App

These Apps give the club control over who has access, can include parental consents, and do not share other information about your members (such as phone number or social media profiles).

# Incident prevention

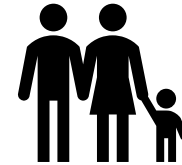


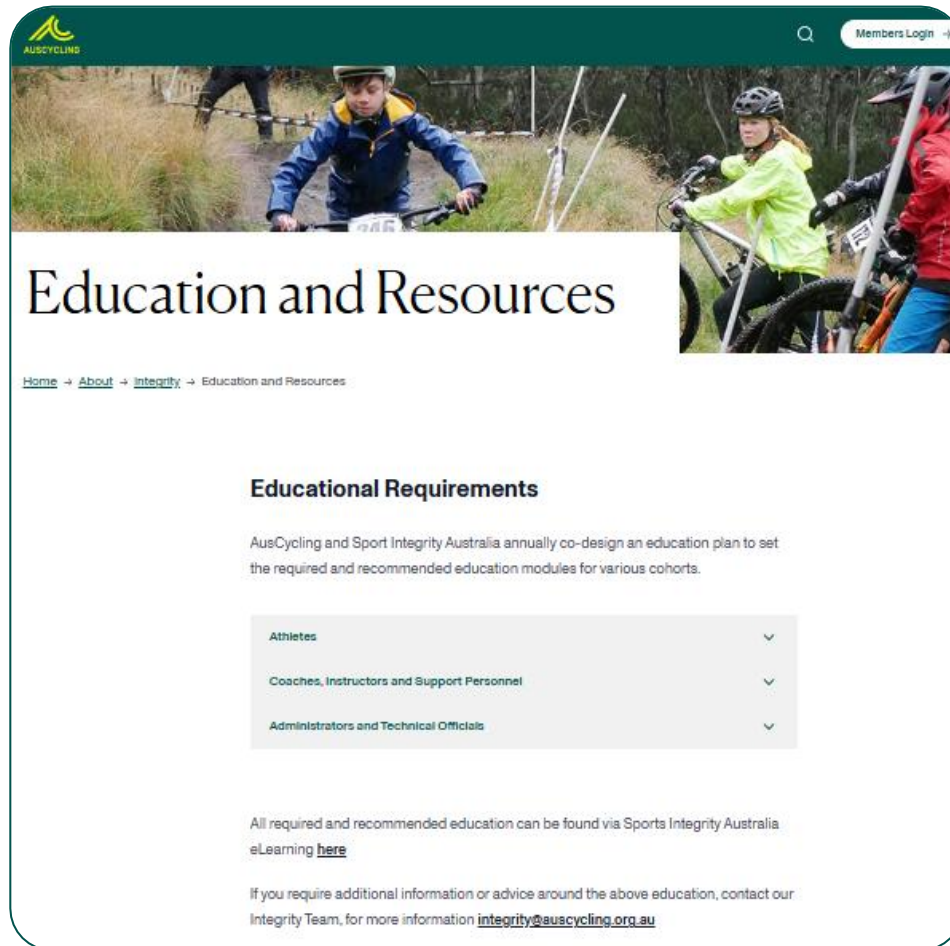
## Where are your risks?



Which event would you expect to have more child safeguarding risks? Why?

## Where are your risks?





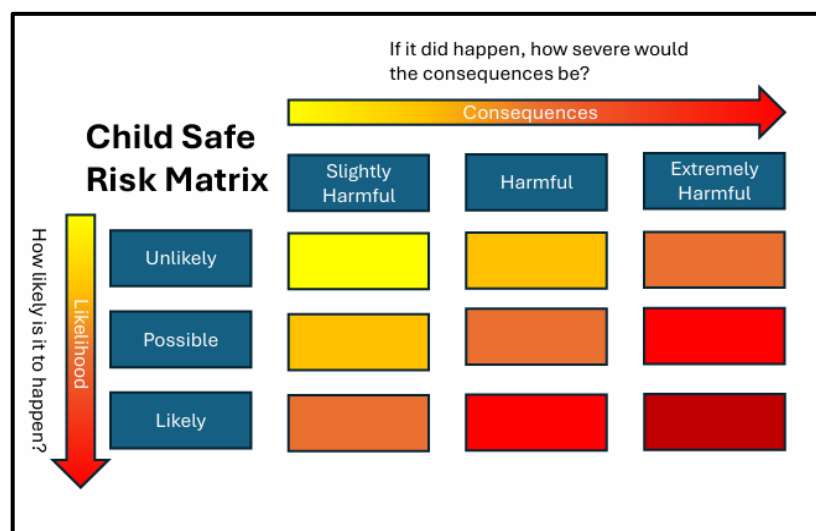
We've developed a Child Safe Risk Management document for clubs

- Accounts for different activities and club structures
- Includes a column for the National Safeguarding Policy
- Fully editable. If there is a section that isn't relevant to your club, you can remove it.

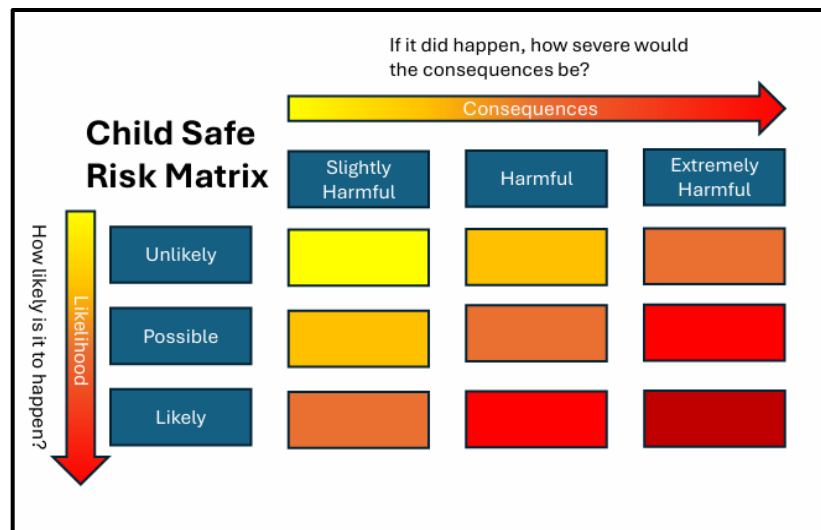
We've done the majority of your child safe risk management for you, but you need to account for any gaps and tweak it to fit your club's needs.

# Child Safe Risk Management

| Likelihood     | Risk          |        |          |         |              |
|----------------|---------------|--------|----------|---------|--------------|
| Almost certain | Medium        | High   | High     | Extreme | Extreme      |
| Likely         | Medium        | Medium | High     | Extreme | Extreme      |
| Possible       | Low           | Medium | High     | High    | Extreme      |
| Unlikely       | Low           | Low    | Medium   | Medium  | High         |
| Rare           | Low           | Low    | Medium   | Medium  | High         |
| Consequence    | Insignificant | Minor  | Moderate | Major   | Catastrophic |

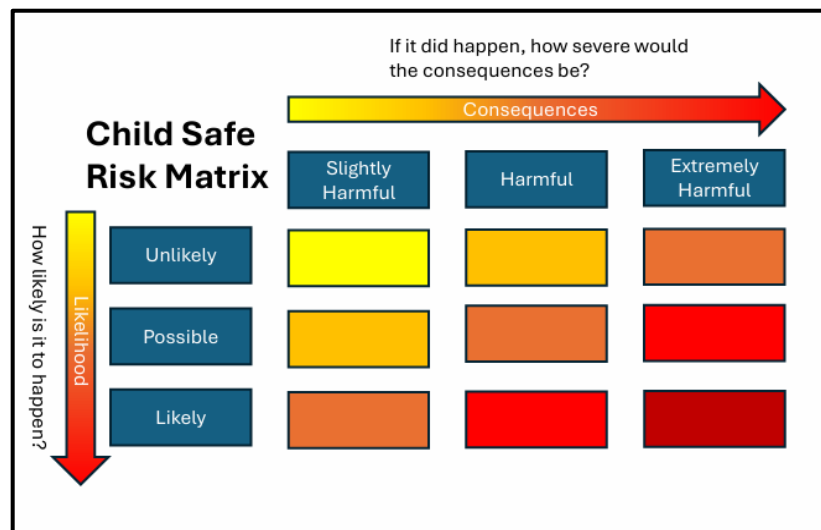


# Child Safe Risk Management



| Risk Factor                                      | Likelihood | Consequence        | Risk       | National Policy                                                                                                   | Control Measures                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adults communicating with children online/phone. | Likely.    | Extremely Harmful. | Very High. | Online communication is prohibited (include a parent/carer and/or club official in communications with children). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote National Policy to all volunteers.</li> <li>Tell children the rules.</li> <li>Only communicate to families using official channels.</li> </ul> |

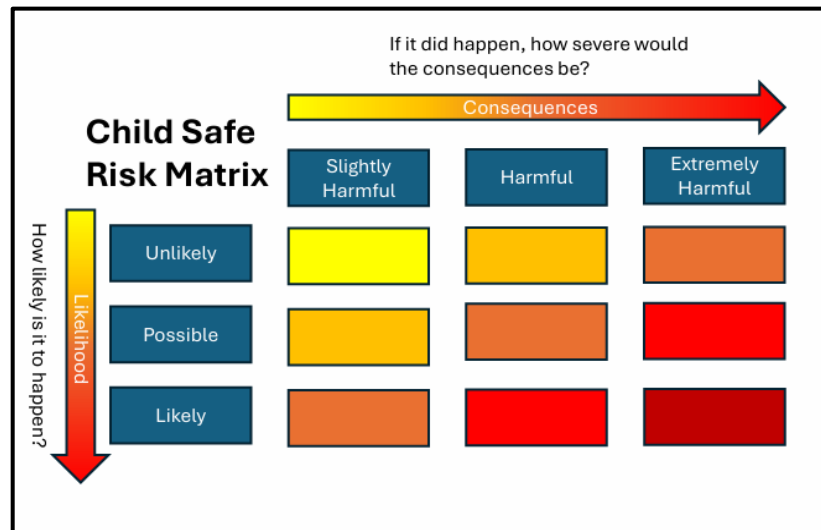
# Child Safe Risk Management



| Risk Factor                                                       | Likelihood | Consequence | Risk  | National Policy                    | Control Measures                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adult alone with a child in a dimly-lit, secluded equipment shed. | Likely.    | Harmful.    | High. | Avoid 1-on-1 unsupervised contact. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All equipment areas are staff only.</li> <li>Tell children the rules.</li> <li>Clear staff only signs.</li> </ul> |

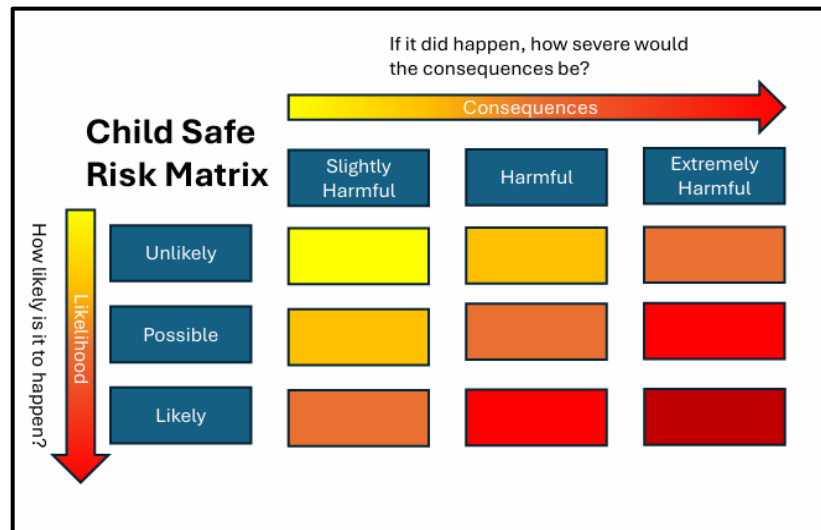


# Child Safe Risk Management



| Risk Factor                                                                                            | Likelihood | Consequence       | Risk      | National Policy                    | Control Measures                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adult alone with a child in an equipment shed with wide open doors, sightlines, and high foot traffic. | Unlikely.  | Slightly Harmful. | Very Low. | Avoid 1-on-1 unsupervised contact. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equipment shed doors are to remain open during service.</li> <li>Children and Adults should minimise time spent in the equipment shed but it is fine for an adult to assist a child in that area.</li> </ul> |

# Child Safe Risk Management



| Risk Factor                                        | Likelihood | Consequence       | Risk | National Policy                                                                                  | Control Measures                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adult accompanying a child on a long-distance ride | Possible   | Extremely Harmful | High | One-on-one unsupervised contact must be immediately reported to club management within 24 hours. | Planned training path documented with club officials and parents/carers.<br>Club will have a system for coaches to log training rides in a calendar.<br>The coach will GPS track the ride and provide that data to club officials if requested. |

# Thank you

If you believe you need to make a report or have concerns about a child's wellbeing, you can contact [integrity@auscycling.org.au](mailto:integrity@auscycling.org.au) for guidance

