

## **About Member Protection**

Boxing ACT abides by the Member Protection policy of our national body, Boxing Australia.

Boxing ACT is constitutionally committed to fair and equitable treatment of all persons, and all of our members are required to observe our Code of Conduct.

### ***Member Protection Declarations***

Coaches, Board members, referees and judges are required to sign a Member Protection Declaration (MPD) each year, in which they must reveal any convictions, findings or charges relating to sexual offences, offences involving children, and offences involving drugs.

Adult boxers and team officials travelling away with an ACT team that includes minors must also complete an MPD.

The MPD form is included as part of the annual membership registration form for coaches and ordinary members.

### ***Police Record Checks***

Coaches and others liable to have regular contact with children have an initial police record check carried out by Boxing ACT to verify the contents of their declaration.

### ***Bylaw***

Our member protection bylaw is viewable on our website on the Documents page.

### ***Complaints***

A complaint can be about an act, behaviour, omission, situation or decision that someone thinks is unfair, unjustified, unlawful, or a breach of our Member Protection Policy.

All complaints will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed to third parties without the complainant's consent except if law requires disclosure or if disclosure is necessary to effectively deal with the complaint.

You cannot be anonymous if you wish to make a complaint. We must follow the principles of natural justice and be fair to both sides. This means that we or you may be required to provide the person/people you have complained about with full details of the complaint so they have a fair chance to respond to all the allegations.

#### **Step 1**

You (the complainant) should try to sort out the problem with the person or people involved if you feel able to do so.

#### **Step 2**

If step 1 is not possible or not reasonable; or if you want to talk confidentially with someone and get more information about what you can do; or if the problem continues after you tried to approach the person or people involved, then talk with one of our Member Protection Officers (MPOs).

#### **Step 3**

After talking with the MPO, you may decide:

- the problem is minor and you do not wish to take the matter forward;
- to try and work out your own resolution; or
- to seek an informal mediated resolution; or
- to approach a relevant agency such as an Equal Opportunity Commission, for advice; or
- to lodge a formal complaint.

If you lodge a formal complaint, the Member Protection Officer must refer it to our national association (Boxing Australia) for investigation by a Member Protection Committee. The Member Protection Committee will make a decision about whether the complaint is substantiated and where appropriate may recommend to Boxing Australia's Council that administrative or disciplinary action be taken. Any Member Protection Committee hearing will be conducted in accordance with Boxing Australia's documented policies.

### ***How to contact a member protection officer***

Boxing ACT's current member protection officers are:

- Melissa Felton (0421 358206)
- Greg Chapman (0409 761158)
- Tony Whelan (0434 922882)

If for any reason you prefer not to discuss your concern with any of the MPOs, please contact a member of Boxing ACT's Board to discuss alternatives, or call Boxing Australia on 1300 889491