



STANDARD

# Child Safe Scouting Reporting Standard



Version: 1.0  
Updated: 15/05/2023



## Document Information

Policy	CYM-POL-01 Child Safe Scouting Policy
Current Version	1.0
First Released	15 May 2023
Last Updated	May 2023
Review Frequency	Two years
Review Before	31 May 2025
Document Authoriser	Chief Commissioner
Functional Owner	Assistant Chief Commissioner People and Culture
Document Owner / Approver	Assistant Chief Commissioner People and Culture
Content Developer	Jean Clifford, Daryl Scott
Audience	Volunteer Adult Members and employees

## Document Amendment History

Version	Date	Section(s) Amended	Summary of Amendment
1.0	May 2023	Whole document	Document content drawn from QBSI 10.1



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Document Information .....	2
Document Amendment History .....	2
1 Purpose .....	4
2 Reporting child abuse or suspicion of child abuse.....	4
3 Non-compliance with this Standard .....	4
4 Related Documents.....	5



## 1 Purpose

This document states the reporting standards to deliver contemporary Child Safe Scouting. It underpins Scouts Queensland's focus of being safe and youth-focused whilst being efficiently and competently managed.

## 2 Reporting child abuse or suspicion of child abuse

It is a requirement of the law in Queensland that all adults must report sexual offending against children to the Police unless they have a reasonable excuse. A reasonable excuse is limited by legislation to:

- The sexual offending incident has already been reported by yourself;
- The sexual offending incident has already been reported by someone else; and
- The witness believing that they may be in harm within domestic violence situation.

It is a requirement of Scouts Queensland that if any Adult or Youth Member or other volunteer suspects a child has experienced Child Abuse or is at risk of experiencing Child Abuse, that person (called a "Notifier") must contact the Police (or if appropriate Child Safety Services). This is not limited to Scouting related activities.

Adults must immediately report to the Police and if appropriate Child Safety Service and Scouts Queensland, suspected, known or disclosure instances of Child Abuse. A failure to report is a breach of the Queensland Branch Policy, and Scouts Australia Code of Conduct.

Where a member makes a report in the interests of Child Safety, Scouts Queensland will support the 'Notifier'. Scouts Queensland will maintain an open and cooperative relationship with all State Authorities and will unreservedly provide information in its possession to those Authorities in their investigations.

Adults who, by virtue of their employment or by State legislation are required by law to report Child Abuse are to follow the mandatory reporting requirements prescribed under state law for reportable situations that occur in Scouting whether within their State or other jurisdictions. Notwithstanding legislation, Branch Policy is that all Adults in Scouting are 'mandatory reporters' of child abuse that is brought to their attention.

GIVEN THIS POLICY (AND WHERE ADULTS IN SCOUTING WOULD NOT OTHERWISE BE 'MANDATED REPORTERS' UNDER STATE LEGISLATION) REPORTING OF - CHILD ABUSE MATTERS ARISING IN THE CONTEXT OF SCOUTING ACTIVITY AND SITUATIONS WHERE A CHILD DISCLOSES OR IS AT RISK OF ABUSE IN SITUATIONS OUTSIDE SCOUTING (e.g. HOME), REPORTING IS MANDATORY.

Branch Policy and this Standard do not alter the requirements for legislated 'Mandated Reporters' to report all matters of Abuse in accordance with State law. When a legislated 'Mandate Reporter' makes a report for a reportable situation that occurs in Scouting that person shall also complete the Branch Child Abuse Report Form (F8) forward it to Branch.

Further to the requirements of employment related mandatory reporting, it has been a requirement since 5 July 2021 that all adults in Queensland report sexual offending against children to the Police unless they have a reasonable excuse.

## 3 Non-compliance with this Standard

Non-Compliance includes and is not limited to:

- Failing to report sexual offending against children to the Police;
- Failing to protect children from sexual offending;
- Failing to report a disclosure or suspicion of harm as required by this Policy;
- Failing to complete and submit a Scouts Queensland form F8 following a report to the Police;
- Failing to adhere to Scouts Queensland Child Protection Policy.



On behalf of the Chief Commissioner and the General Manager, the Assistant Chief Commissioner People and Culture is responsible for the management of matters of non-compliance.

All matters of alleged noncompliance may be reported by email to [complaints@scoutsqld.com.au](mailto:complaints@scoutsqld.com.au)

All allegations of non-compliance will be treated in the strictest confidence to protect the privacy of children and young people.

## 4 Related Documents

Document Type	Document Title
Procedure	CYM-PRO-01`Child Safe Scouting Procedures
Standard	CYM-STD-01 Child Safe Scouting Membership Standard
Standard	CYM-STD-03 Child Safe Scouting Program Delivery Standard