

Barbershop Harmony Australia Youth Protection Guidelines



The Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers Inc. (trading as Barbershop Harmony Australia), is absolutely opposed to child abuse of any description and fully supports the implementation of policies and procedures to prevent child abuse by its members.

As BHA has a large (and growing) number of youth members who are under the age of 18 years, it is the responsibility of every BHA-registered club to ensure that their organisation is child-safe and child-friendly by familiarising themselves with the relevant local legislation.

All BHA-registered clubs and choruses, and any members who have any contact with young people must abide by the relevant child protection legislation in their State or Territory to ensure the safety of those young people.

Each State and Territory has strict rules and regulations in place for people who work with young people, to ensure that children are kept safe when they participate in activities outside of the home. Your BHA Regional Chairman will be coordinating the relevant local requirements for your State or Territory and will be able to provide you with information and support for your club.

Western Australia - The Department for Child Protection is responsible for overseeing and upholding child protection in Western Australia. www.checkwwc.wa.gov.au/checkwwc.

Victoria - The Department of Human Services is responsible for overseeing and upholding child protection in Victoria, information about working with children is at www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren/.

Queensland - The Department of Child Safety is responsible for overseeing and upholding child protection in Queensland. www.communities.qld.gov.au/childsafety/child-safety-services

Tasmania - The Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for overseeing and upholding child protection in Tasmania. www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/children/child_protection_services

South Australia - The Department for Families and Communities is responsible for overseeing and upholding child protection in South Australia.
<http://www.dcsi.sa.gov.au/pub/Home/Familiesandyoungpeople/Protectingchildren/tabid/249/Default.aspx>

New South Wales - Community Services (formerly the Department of Community Services) is responsible for overseeing and upholding child protection in NSW.
http://www.community.nsw.gov.au/preventing_child_abuse_and_neglect.html

Australian Capital Territory - The Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services (DHCS) is responsible for overseeing and upholding child protection in the ACT.
<http://www.dhcs.act.gov.au/home/publications/wwwvpc>

Northern Territory - The Department of Health and Families is responsible for overseeing and upholding child protection in the NT. <http://www.workingwithchildren.nt.gov.au/>

Further information about how you can ensure that your club is a child-safe and child-friendly organisation is available at:

<http://www.childwise.net/Help-Advice/becoming-a-child-safe-organisation.html>.

Contact your BHA Regional Chairman for further information.