**Child Safe Sport Commitment Statement**

At the Ballarat Football Netball League (BFNL), the safety and wellbeing of children and young people is our highest priority. We are committed to providing a sporting environment that is inclusive, respectful, and free from harm—where all children and young people feel safe, valued, and empowered.

We believe that **child safety is everyone's responsibility,** and we are committed to the **Victorian Child Safe Standards** and **relevant legislation**, including the **Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 (Vic)**. Our commitment extends to all children and young people who participate in our league activities, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, children with a disability, and those who may be vulnerable.

We commit to:

* Embedding a culture of child safety and wellbeing across all levels of the BFNL
* Upholding the rights of all children to participate in sport without fear of abuse, discrimination, or neglect
* Actively listening to the voices of children and taking their concerns seriously
* Maintaining clear procedures to prevent, report, and respond to any concerns of child abuse or misconduct
* Providing regular education and training to all BFNL personnel, including coaches, officials, staff, volunteers and club leaders
* Ensuring our policies, codes of conduct and reporting practices reflect our zero-tolerance approach to child abuse
* Creating safe and culturally inclusive environments that respect diversity and support children’s sense of belonging

We expect all people involved in the BFNL—whether in a paid or volunteer role—to uphold this commitment at all times. By working together, we will ensure that football and netball across our region remains a place where children thrive, grow, and feel safe to be themselves.

***Together, we play our part in making sport safe for every child.***