**Code of Conduct**

Child safety is a priority of the Rye Yacht Club and the prevention and reporting of abuse is supported and encouraged. Our organisation is committed to child safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered.

All instructors, volunteers and Committee members of Rye Yacht Club, including the Sailing School, are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children, as noted below.

The Code of Conduct sets expectations of how staff, volunteers and contractors should behave around children.

**I WILL:**

* Adhere to the Club’s Child Safe Policy, this Code of Conduct and other relevant Rye Yacht Club Policies
* Take all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse
* Treat everyone with respect, including listening to and valuing their ideas and opinions
* Promote friendships and encourage children and young people to support their peers
* Involve children and young people in decisions about the activities they participate in as well as parents and carers
* Raise concerns with our Child Safety Persons if risks to child safety are identified. Report and act on any concerns or observed breaches of this code of conduct**.**
* Welcome all children and their families and carers
* Treat all children and young people with respect, regardless of race, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, nationality, cultural background, financial situation, disability or other characteristics. Make aboriginal children and families feel included and welcome and support Aboriginal children to express their culture and enjoy their cultural rights
* Model appropriate adult behaviour
* Listen to children and respond to them appropriately (if they feel unsafe)
* Respect the privacy of children and their families, only disclosing information to people who have a need to know

**I WILL NOT:**

* Develop ‘special’ relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism (for example by offering gifts, giving special treatment etc)
* Engage in any form of sexual behaviour with, or in the presence of, children or young people
* Take any disciplinary action against a child or young person involving physical punishment or any form of treatment that could reasonably be as degrading, cruel, frightening or humiliating
* Exhibit behaviours with children which may be considered as unnecessarily physical.
* Assist a child with activities of a personal nature that the child can do for themselves eg toileting or changing clothes
* Engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children eg personal social activities
* Use inappropriate language in the presence of children
* Express personal views on cultures, race, sexuality in the presence of children
* Supply alcohol or drugs(including tobacco) to children and young people
* Use electronic communication (email, text messages, twitter, snapchat etc) with a child or young person other than in connection with Rye Yacht Club programs
* Ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse

If I suspect that this Code of Conduct has been breached by another person in the organisation:

**I WILL:**

* Act to prioritise the best interests of the child or children
* Promptly take actions to ensure the child or children are safe
* As soon as possible report the incident or concerns using the Rye Yacht Club complaints process.

Maintain the privacy of those involved, following the Rye Yacht Club record keeping, privacy and information sharing guidelines.

Rye Yacht Club and Sailing School staff, contractors and volunteers must observe this Code of Conduct and accept responsibility for immediately reporting any breach of this code to the Rye Yacht Club Safety Officers; Jean Cooper/Bob Cooper on Jean’s mobile 0402325663 or Bob’s mobile 0432270167, or via the email **childsafetyperson@ryeyachtclub.org.au**

By observing these standards, you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to Bob Cooper and Jean Cooper, who are the Child Safety Officers for Rye Yacht Club

This Code of Conduct will be reviewed regularly by Rye Yacht Club.

I have read this Code of Conduct and agree to abide by its terms.

**Name:**

**Signature:**

**Date:**