2025 Child Safety Declaration

Child safety and wellbeing is a key priority of the **MOUNT PLEASANT FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB**. and we hereby declare our commitment to creating an environment that is safe and welcoming for all children and young people to participate in Australian Football.

To achieve this, our Club is committed to implementing the Victorian Child Safe Standards through our Commitment Statement on Child Safety, the Club's Child Safety & Wellbeing Policy, Code of Conduct, Complaints and Reporting Procedure policies. These policies and procedures when applied ensures compliance with Safeguarding Children Standards and will :

- **Establish** a culturally safe environment in which diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected
- **Embed** child safety and wellbeing in organisational leadership, governance and culture
- **Empower** children and young people so they know their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously
- **Inform** and engage families in respect to child safety and wellbeing
- **Ensure** that equity and diversity is upheld through our policies and practices
- **Engage** volunteers and officials to ensure that they are suitable to work with children and young people
- **Respond** to complaints and concerns promptly, thoroughly and with a child focused approach
- **Educate** staff, game day personnel and volunteers to provide them with knowledge and skills how to create a safe and welcoming environment for children and young people at our Club
- **Understand** and mitigate the risks to children and young people in physical and online environments
- **Review** and improve our child safe policies, procedures and practices regularly
- **Role model** behaviour and actions documented in policies, procedures and practices guiding how our Club is safe for Children and Young People

Our Club has zero tolerance to any form of child abuse or harm and will act quickly and in the best interest of the child or young person should an allegation of harm or abuse occur.

To meet the above expectations, our Club will:

Commit to:

- Discuss and sign this declaration as a committee to formally endorse our commitment
- Promote this declaration and our commitment to creating a safe and welcoming environment for all children and young people through our Club network (Club notice board, social media pages, email and newsletter correspondence)
- Appoint a child safeguarding officer and promote their details to families/members/volunteers

Implement:

- Regu;ar discussion occurs at Club meetings to action the Child Safe Standards

Learn and embed a culture of child safety in our Club through**:**

- Discussion with children, young people and their families – everyone can "have a say"
- Education through awareness workshops and safeguarding resources
- Regular review of safeguarding policies and procedures with our Club committee

Club President

Signature:

Print name: Phil Whiting & Chris Nihill

Date: 1/2/2025

Child Safeguarding Officer (CSO)

Signature:

Print name: Melissa Nihill

Date: 1/2/2025

Email: mountpleasantfootballnetball@gmail.com