



Supporter toolkit

Sport is an enjoyable and rewarding part of life for millions of Australians. While it mainly happens in person, it's good to remember that it also plays out online.

The number one rule of respect in sport is just as important online as it is offline.

eSafety's [online safety resources](#) for sport have been co-created with sporting organisations across Australia to help you recognise and respond to online abuse in sport.



How to deal with online abuse

Find out how to report serious online abuse.



How to recognise online abuse

Understand types of online risks in sport.



8 ways to stay safe online

Discover our top tips for online safety in your sport.



Sports administrators

Learn how to manage online safety at your club.



Coaches and officials

Explore safety advice and real online examples.



Athletes and competitors

Read practical advice about staying safer online.



Sports parents

Look at ways to keep your child safe at sport.



In the sporting spotlight

Find extra safety tips if you have a public profile.



Downloadable resources

Share positive online values at your sport.

Use this toolkit to help share the resources at [eSafety.gov.au/sport](https://www.esafety.gov.au/sport) through social media, blog posts and emails to your stakeholders, downloading posters to put up at your club and more.

Thank you for helping all Australians play it safe and fair online.

Show your support online

Post on social media

Post one of eSafety's social media images or create your own and encourage your followers to share the eSafety Sport resources. Use the hashtag **#PlayItFairOnline** and tag **@eSafetyOffice** so we can see your posts.

Suggested posts

1. eSafety Sport provides everything you need to learn more about ways to prevent and manage online abuse. Explore tailored information for sports administrators, coaches, officials, parents and competitors from **@eSafetyOffice**: [eSafety.gov.au/sport](https://www.esafety.gov.au/sport) **#PlayItFairOnline**
2. Sport doesn't just happen at the field, on the water, court or at the track – it's online too. Our daily sporting life extends to team apps, video, social media and more. What you say online matters just as much as what you say offline. Find **@eSafetyOffice** online safety tips and advice: [eSafety.gov.au/sport](https://www.esafety.gov.au/sport) **#PlayItFairOnline**
3. The number one rule of respect in sport is just as important online as it is offline. Explore **@eSafetyOffice** resources to help make sure everyone in sport has safer and more positive experiences online: [eSafety.gov.au/sport](https://www.esafety.gov.au/sport) **#PlayItFairOnline**
4. Online abuse is never OK. Just as we don't tolerate abuse in the stadium, in the change rooms or from the sidelines, we don't accept it online. Find online safety tips and resources from **@eSafetyOffice** to help you **#PlayItFairOnline**: [eSafety.gov.au/sport](https://www.esafety.gov.au/sport)

Publish a blogpost or share in a newsletter

Share the resources with your community through a newsletter item, web story or email. Use the below copy as a starting point and adjust to best suit your sport and audience.

eSafety Sport: Play it safe and fair on and offline

We are online every day as part of sporting life.

We use team apps, share images in chats and scroll through social media feeds to help us connect with others, but being online also comes with the risk of abuse. Online abuse in sport is not OK.

The [eSafety Commissioner](#), Australia's independent regulator for online safety, has resources to help the wider sports community prevent and deal with online harm. Whether you're a volunteer, coach, official, competitor or fan, eSafety Sport has something to help to prevent and manage online abuse.



eSafety Sport provides tailored information for sports **administrators, coaches or officials, parents** and **athletes and competitors**, practical information on how to **recognise** and **deal with** online abuse in sport, as well as **top tips** to stay safe online.

eSafety Sport has been informed by real-life examples to help you recognise and respond to online abuse in sport, and has been developed in partnership with a range of government agencies, peak bodies and sporting organisations.

We play by the same rules on and offline.

Join us in giving online abuse a red card.

Explore eSafety Sport today: [eSafety.gov.au/sport](https://www.esafety.gov.au/sport)



Download our posters

Anyone involved in sport can be the target of online abuse, or responsible for it. This includes competitors, coaches, volunteers, officials or supporters.

Download, print and put up our posters in your club or workplace to remind everyone that online abuse is never OK, and eSafety has resources to help.



Subscribe to our newsletter

Want to stay up to date with eSafety resources, online issues, events, blogs and the latest research? Sign up to our newsletter: [eSafety.gov.au/about-us/subscribe](https://www.esafety.gov.au/about-us/subscribe)



What to do if you or someone in your sport is being targeted by online abuse

Online abuse is not acceptable and there are steps you can take to deal with it.

Situations vary according to the type of abuse, the person responsible and the platform. Abuse can come from another sport member, the general public or someone anonymous. You can take action.

Remember, you don't have to deal with online abuse on your own. It's a good idea to talk to someone you trust, like a teammate, friend or family member. They can also help you report the abuse.

Online abuse is never OK, and eSafety is here to help.

If you experience online abuse:

- **Contact your sport organisation for help** – they may have policies around online safety in place.
- **Follow the steps** to report online abuse:
 - 1. Collect evidence** – [take screenshots](#) or a record of what has happened and where.
 - 2. Report it**
 - Harmful posts, comments, messages and profiles should be reported to the online platform or service first. If they don't help, and the abuse is very serious, report it to [eSafety.gov.au](#).
 - Sharing or threatening to share an intimate image or video of you without your consent is image-based abuse – it can be reported to [eSafety.gov.au](#) immediately, unless you're being blackmailed. If you're being blackmailed, go to our advice on how to deal with [sextortion](#).
 - 3. Stop contact**, tighten your security settings and prevent content from being shared further.
 - 4. Get more support** – with strategies to manage the impacts of child [cyberbullying](#), [adult cyber abuse](#) or [image-based abuse](#). You can also find [counselling and support services](#) that are right for you.

Find more detailed advice at [eSafety.gov.au/sport](#).