

MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

1. Policy Intent

The International Tag Federation is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful environment for all people involved in Tag.

This policy protects members from abuse, bullying, harassment, sexual misconduct, discrimination, victimisation and vilification. It sets out the standards of behaviour expected and the conduct that is not acceptable (Prohibited Conduct).

2. Scope

This policy applies to players, coaches, referees, officials, volunteers, staff, contractors, spectators, and any person or organisation involved in International Tag Federation activities.

It applies at matches and training, tournaments and events, travel and accommodation, online environments, and any situation connected to International Tag Federation.

3. Key Definitions

- Abuse – Physical, emotional, psychological or sexual harm, including misuse of power.
- Bullying – Repeated unreasonable behaviour intended to harm or intimidate.
- Harassment – Unwanted behaviour that offends, humiliates or threatens.
- Sexual Misconduct – Unwelcome sexual behaviour, harassment, assault or criminal sexual conduct.
- Discrimination – Unfair treatment based on protected characteristics.
- Victimisation – Unfair treatment of someone because they made or supported a complaint.
- Vilification – Public conduct inciting hatred, serious contempt or ridicule of a person or group.

4. Prohibited Conduct

A person breaches this policy if they engage in any prohibited behaviour toward another person connected to the International Tag Federation.

Examples include physical or verbal abuse, online harassment or threats, discriminatory remarks, sexual misconduct, and excluding someone because they made a complaint.

5. Reporting and Complaints

Concerns or complaints under this policy should be reported to a Competition Manager, League Administrator, or International Tag Federation Integrity/Safeguarding Officer.

All matters will be handled under the International Tag Federation Disciplinary & Judiciary Procedure.

If the behaviour may be criminal, it should also be reported to police.

6. Education

Australian Oztag will provide education on respectful behaviour, promote inclusion and diversity, and provide safeguarding and integrity training for officials and volunteers.

7. Information Sharing

Information relating to complaints may be shared within International Tag Federation on a need-to-know basis and in accordance with privacy laws to ensure participant safety and proper investigation.

8. Breaches

Breaches of this policy may result in warnings, suspension, removal from roles, bans from participation, or referral to authorities.

9. Related Policies

This policy should be read with the Code of Conduct, Child Safeguarding Policy, Social Media Policy, and Disciplinary & Judiciary Procedure.

10. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure alignment with best practice in sport integrity and safeguarding.