

# **National Historical Machinery Association Inc. (A 0020801 V)**

## **Working With Children Policy:**

### **1. Mission Statement:**

The National Historical Machinery Association Inc. is committed to the safety & wellbeing of children under 18 years of age and who are participants in any rally/event under the control of the NHMA and its member clubs. The Association will take steps to ensure a child safe environment is maintained at all times.

### **2. Introduction:**

2.1 Children have a right to grow up in healthy communities.

2.2 The NHMA and its member clubs have a responsibility to promote the safety and welfare of every child having contact with the Association through authorised activities and to work in a coordinated and co-operative way to ensure protection and timely intervention where children are at risk of harm.

2.3 The Association, aims to protect children from any club activity that may pose harm or risk of harm.

2.4 In all actions and decisions concerning children, the safety, welfare and wellbeing of the child must be the paramount consideration.

2.5 In deciding what action is necessary to take (whether by legal or administrative process) in order to protect the child from harm, the course to be followed must be the least intrusive intervention in the life of the child and his or her family that is consistent with the paramount concern to protect the child from harm and promote the child's development.

### **3. Procedure:**

3.1 The following procedures cannot cover every potential child protection risk. The Association and each member club promoting activities for children must conduct an annual child protection risk review - this should be documented and recorded as part of the NHMA Committee of Management and member club Minutes.

3.2 NHMA member clubs hosting National events should respect WWC legislation that applies in the State where the event is being held.

3.3 Child protection risks may occur between children and young adult participants. Special care should be taken where activities includes young adults (18yrs or over), with children (under 18 yrs).

3.4 Any child related incident reported to the NHMA or any NHMA member club must be reported to the police.

### **4. The Working With Children Check:**

4.1 Arrangements for obtaining a WWC check vary in each State. Member clubs operating the program must make themselves familiar with the legislation in their State and ensure compliance.

4.2 In most States, a WWC check is only required for longer term work with children. Each member club must assess the need to obtain and manage the WWC check before they participate in their activities. It is desirable to eliminate all risks to children participating in the activities rather than rely on a WWC check.

### **5. Summary:**

In most States, (as in 4.2 above) a WWC check is only required for longer term activities with children, and activities specifically designed for children. However, it is advisable that member clubs seek further advice from [www.workingwithchildren](http://www.workingwithchildren) in their State.