

## CIRCULAR 268

**TO:** QRL Division Managers

**DATE:** 30 March, 2007

**RE:** Blue Card Policy

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Dear Sir/Madam,

QRL Circular 255 dated 16 December, 2005, covering specific "Blue Card" requirements is cancelled and replaced by this Circular which covers the League's updated Policy under the Act.

### Introduction:

This Policy supports the Queensland Rugby League's (QRL) position in providing a safe environment for all players and others who engage in the game of Rugby League.

This Policy has been created to endeavour to protect all QRL individual members who are under 18 years of age from all forms of physical or mental violence, exploitation and abuse (including sexual abuse) while under the care and conduct of any coach, trainer, manager or other official.

This Policy provides direction to all Rugby League Clubs, Leagues and Divisions on the procedures for complying with the requirements for the Working with Children Check - "Blue Card" administered by the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act (2000).

### Definitions:

"The Commission" means the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian which is an independent statutory authority which promotes and protects the rights, interests and well being of children and young people in Queensland.

"Regulated Employment" means that the usual functions of the employment (including volunteer work) include or are likely to include:

- Providing services at a Club or Association that are directed mainly towards children; or
- Conducting activities at a Club or Association that mainly involve children; and
- The services are provided, or the activities are conducted, by or within a Club Association or similar entity.

**Who does the Working with Children Check relate to:**

Children under 18 years of age who are volunteers are not required to undergo a criminal history check under this category.

All volunteers and paid employees over the age of 18 who engage in child-related activities regulated by the Commission's Act must apply for a "Blue Card".

All volunteers must hold a "Blue Card" before they start volunteering in any area of regulated employment, regardless of how often they come into contact with children and young people.

Due to Rugby League's large participation base and the nature, timing and variety of venues used for training and playing, the QRL has recognised and accepted that parents who are actively involved in working with and/or supervising children are not always involved in the same or similar activities from week to week. Therefore parents who are involved in an official capacity with juniors are required to complete the "Blue Card" screening procedures.

Please ensure that all Local Leagues and Clubs within the Division receive a copy of this advice and also that they are fully aware of requirements under this amended Policy.

Yours sincerely

**Ross Livermore**  
**MANAGING DIRECTOR**