



Working with Children's Check

CVI is committed to providing a safe environment for our participants and their families and at the same time promoting positive behaviours and attitudes in protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of the broader calisthenics community.

Under the Working with Children Act 2005 (the Act) persons who work with children must undergo checks on their criminal records. The Working with Children (WWC) check helps protect children from physical and sexual harm. It does this by screening people's criminal records and professional conduct, and by preventing those who pose an unjustifiable risk to children from working with or caring for them.

The WWC lasts for a period of 5 years and the Act defines children as anyone under the age of 18. and child-related work involves contact with a child that is unsupervised, direct and part of the person's duties.

We live in an increasingly litigious society and as members may be aware education institutions and sports are implementing higher levels of accreditation to ensure they are providing a safe environment for minors in their care. CVI wants to ensure that it too has appropriate measures in place and in 2016, the CVI Board resolved to introduce mandatory Working with Children's accreditation effective from 1 March 2017 for all persons who wish to be backstage or in a dressing room at a calisthenic competitions. This includes club officials and volunteers, backstage crew and parents. Checks for volunteers are free of charge.

What this means for clubs:

- All club committee members and team/section managers will need to have a WWC
- Coaches **MUST** have a WWC as it is a requirement of accredited coaches (unless they are accredited school teachers with a VIT card)
- Under CVI's WWC best practice, all competition volunteers from clubs will need to have a WWC even if their child is a participant.
- Clubs need to ensure coaches have the correct type of check (i.e. if they are paid as coaches they should have an E on their card for employee)

What this means at Competitions

- From 2017, all backstage competition volunteers will be required to hold a valid WWC.
- Any persons accessing the backstage or dressing room area should carry their card with them at all times and will be asked to leave the backstage area if they cannot produce the WWC card on request.

You do not need a WWC Check if you:

- Take part in an activity with a child in the same way that a child participates e.g. as other members of the senior's team where there is a 16 year old.
- A school teacher who already holds a VIT Card as part of their accreditation
- A police officer

If you would like further information of Working with Children Checks and CVI's best practice please contact the CVI Office: admin@calisthenics.asn.au or (03) 9562 6011

To apply for a check please visit: <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>