

Working with Children Check Guidance Note

Who is required to obtain a Working with Children Check (WWC Check):

Any person 18 years and over, in a voluntary or salaried position, who works with person's under 18 years of age in any capacity is required to have a valid Working with Children Check registered to Life Saving Victoria and their Life Saving Club. The Department of Justice WWC Check website defines the requirement as “as being where contact with children is direct, unsupervised and part of a person’s duties.”(viewed 19 November 2014, www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au)

The following matrix illustrates the nature whereby Members 18 years and over require a WWC Check.

Categories	WWC Check required by LSV
Active (Patrolling members)	√
Trainers (qualified or unqualified) & Camp Leaders	√
Nipper Programs/Carnivals (Officials, Age Managers, Team Managers & Assistants)	√
Associate Members	Is required <u>only if and when</u> the member falls under the WWC Check website definition as above.
Life Members	Is required <u>only if and when</u> the member falls under the WWC Check website definition as above.

Clarification regarding persons exempted under the Act – Police Officers and VIT registered teachers

The *Working with Children Act 2005* provides for exemptions to Police Officers and VIT registered teachers. Life Saving Victoria requires these members to have a WWC Check – despite their exemption under the Act.

Why - Without undertaking a WWC Check referenced to LSV, there is no link between your profession as a teacher or Department of Justice employee and any volunteer organisation in which you participate. If any member in their substantive capacity of a teacher or Police Officer was to be charged with breach of any laws relevant to this check (e.g. sexual misconduct), Life Saving Victoria would not otherwise be informed of such charges. This therefore ensures that LSV will provide a higher level of risk minimisation for our junior members.

For further information or to read the Life Saving Victoria Member Protection – Working with Children Check Policy in its entirety, please visit -

<http://www.lifesavingvictoria.com.au/www/html/1614-wwcc-frequently-asked-questions.asp>

