

Providing a Safe Environment

Providing a safe environment is about giving thought to what might go wrong and taking action to prevent possible accidents and undesirable events. It is about being alert to danger and taking preventative action by establishing risk management processes to avert danger as far as possible.

Duty of Care

AusTouch Leaders and Coordinators have a legal responsibility to provide a safe environment for all participants and their parents / guardians. Common Law imposes a 'Duty of Care' on all of us.

Duty of Care generally requires that you take reasonable care to avoid risks of which you can reasonably foresee. Carrying out the following steps will substantially reduce the chances of a successful claim of negligence against a Leader or Coordinator:

- Provide a safe environment
- Activities must be adequately planned
- Children must be evaluated for injury or incapacity
- Young children should not be mismatched in competition
- Safe and proper equipment should be provided
- Leaders and Coordinators should keep accurate records relating to attendance, injuries or risks assessed before a session starts
- Children must be warned of inherent risks of the sport
- Activities should be closely supervised
- Leaders or Coordinators should know first aid
- Develop clear, written rules for practice and general conduct