

Work Health & Safety national standardisation & significance for Victorian O Clubs.

Victoria will not enact the harmonised WHS legislation, instead considering that its existing OH&S legislation is adequate.

(web page link below)

Volunteers, and organisations who use volunteers have obligations.

<http://www.volunteer.vic.gov.au/toolkit-for-volunteer-organisations/manage-your-organisation>

OV (and OA) Sportscover insurance covers 3rd party liability, not personal accident. WorkCover only covers paid employees.

Don Fell

<http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/laws-and-regulations/occupational-health-and-safety/national-work-health-and-safety-reform>

National Work Health And Safety Reform

The Victorian Government has confirmed that Victoria will not adopt the national model workplace health and safety laws in their current form.

The Government supports the principle of national harmonisation and continues to work towards best practice legislation.

WorkSafe continues to enforce Victoria's existing occupational health and safety laws and regulations.

This means that Victoria's workplaces need to refer to Victoria's codes and guidance materials for information about how to comply with Victoria's occupational health and safety laws.

Victorian codes and guidance materials are specifically designed to inform duty holders as to how they can comply with Victorian occupational health and safety legislation. National Workplace Health and Safety codes and guidance materials have no legal status in Victoria. They are designed to support the national model laws and are not designed to support Victorian occupational health and safety laws.

For more information about Victoria's OHS compliance framework, click [here](#).

For more information about the national model work health and safety laws, visit the [Safe Work Australia website](#).

For details of the Victorian Government's position on national harmonisation, refer to the following media releases of [14 September 2011](#) , [28 September 2011](#) and [12 April 2012](#).

Risk, safety and insurance



Risk is inherent in most things that we do and running a community organisation is no different. But risk doesn't have to be something that stifles your ideas and creativity. Nor should it be something that you ignore altogether.

Identifying the likely risks, understanding their impact on your organisation and its people and deciding on the most appropriate strategies to eliminate or reduce that impact is the best approach to managing risk in any organisation.

Select a topic to find out more:

- [Assessing and managing risk](#)
- [Insurance](#) (New)
- [Workplace health and safety](#)

Workplace health and safety



Occupational health and safety laws protect the health, safety and well being of the people that work at and come into your community organisation.

In Victoria, occupational health and safety is regulated under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* (OHS Act) and the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007*.

In 2008, Victoria, along with the other states, territories and the Commonwealth, signed an intergovernmental agreement to harmonise the various health and safety laws in operation in Australia. This includes the Act, Regulations and Codes of practice. Read more in [National health and safety reform](#).

Many people think that the OHS Act only applies to organisations with employees but this legislation is very broad and may also apply to organisations that have volunteers. But a legal obligation should not be the only motivating factor for ensuring the health and safety of the volunteers in your organisation. Volunteers deserve the same risk management and safety measures as you give to paid employees.

An organisation that doesn't manage the health and safety of its staff and volunteers risks damage to its reputation as well as possible legal ramifications.

Select a topic to find out more:

- [Insurance for volunteers](#)
- [National health and safety reform](#)
- [Managing health and safety](#)
- [Training and supervision](#)
- [Emergency procedures](#)
- [Tools and resources](#)