# RELEVANT CERTIFICATION AND HEALTH & SAFETY COMPLIANCE

To Whom It May Concern,

Please find below relevant details regarding policies and legal requirements relating to the programs GRIP Leadership facilitates for young people.

# **WORKING WITH CHILDREN**

Every person working for GRIP Leadership has undergone a Working With Children Check as required by some Australian legislation. Schools and parents can be assured that the checks and procedures in place are more in depth than required.

# **ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT**

All electrical equipment is tested and tagged by a certified electrician in accordance with AS/NZS3760.

# **RISK MANAGEMENT**

GRIP Leadership utilises the services or an external H&S consultancy to assist in conducting risk assessments of events and procedures. Please see attached our H&S Policy and Risk Assessment.

## **PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE**

GRIP Leadership has a policy for A\$20,000,000.00 with Ansvar Insurance. Policy #02.300.0605069 which is valid in Australia & New Zealand.

# **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Grip Leadership has a Health & Safety Management System which complies with all Australian and New Zealand Legislation and Standards (see Policy attached) in particular AS/NZS4801.

#### CHILD SAFETY POLICY and

### CODE OF CONDUCT - WORKING WITH CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE

The Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct was developed to demonstrate the strong commitment of the management, staff and volunteers to child safety, and to establishing and maintaining a child safe and child friendly environment at any event (Event) conducted by GRIP Leadership.

This Policy and Code of Conduct applies to all staff, volunteers, children and individuals involved with GRIP Leadership. This Policy is to be reviewed annually by the Directors of GRIP Leadership.

#### **CHILD SAFETY POLICY**

# 1. Commitment to child safety

All children who come to the Event have a right to feel and be safe.

GRIP Leadership is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people accessing our programs and activities. The welfare of the children at our Event will always be our first priority. We want children and young people who participate in our programs and activities to feel safe and to benefit from the event.

# 2. Children's rights to safety and participation

GRIP Leadership staff and volunteers encourage children to express their views, and make suggestions, especially on matters that directly affect children. We actively encourage all children who participate in our programs to 'have a say'. We value diversity and do not tolerate any discriminatory practices.

We listen to and act on any concerns children, or their teachers/carers, raise with us.

#### 3. Recruitment of staff and volunteers

GRIP Leadership applies the best practice standards in the recruitment and screening of staff and volunteers. All new GRIP Leadership staff and volunteers working with children will be interviewed and have referee checks before commencing work for GRIP Leadership. All staff and volunteers who are involved in our programs and activities with children are required to provide as applicable a National Police Certificate often referred to as a "police check", which is a national summary of an individual's offender history, as part of our screening processes. New volunteers at GRIP Leadership undertake a three month probationary period. All GRIP Leadership staff are subject to a mandatory probationary period of up to six months.

# 4. Support for staff and volunteers

We provide support and supervision of staff and volunteers so people feel valued, respected and fairly treated.

# 5. Reporting and responding to suspected abuse and neglect

We will not tolerate incidents of child abuse. Abuse and neglect includes:

- Physical abuse when a person purposefully injures or threatens to injure a child or young person.
- Emotional abuse an attack on a child or young person's self esteem e.g. through bullying, name calling, threatening, ridiculing, intimidating or isolating the child.
- > Sexual abuse any sexual act or sexual threat imposed on a child or young person.
- Neglect where a child or young person is harmed by the failure to provide the basic physical or emotional necessities.

Staff and volunteers must notify the appropriate Child Abuse Report Line (see below) as soon as practicable if they have a reasonable suspicion that a child has been or is being abused or neglected.

A person does not necessarily exhaust his or her duty of care to a child by making a report to the Child Abuse Report Line. For example, staff and volunteers should also report any form of suspected abuse to a director of GRIP Leadership, who will seek further support to keep the child and others safe.

We take responsibility for ensuring that staff and volunteers are aware how to make appropriate reports of abuse or neglect.

# CODE OF CONDUCT WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

This Code of Conduct is designed to provide guidance to our staff and volunteers responsible for activities involving children and young people under the age of 18 years. The Code serves to protect children and reduce any opportunities for abuse or harm to occur. Management, staff and volunteers all agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.

# Management will:

- 1. Be responsible for the overall welfare and wellbeing of staff and volunteers.
- 2. Be accountable for managing and maintaining a duty of care towards staff and volunteers.
- Nominate the GRIP Leadership Managing Director as the contact person to provide information and support to all staff, volunteers, children, young people and their carers regarding child protection matters.

#### Staff will:

- 1. Be responsible for relevant administration of programs and activities at an Event.
- 2. Maintain a duty of care towards others and be accountable for matters relating to the aims and functions of GRIP Leadership.
- 3. Establish and maintain a child safe environment in the course of their work.

#### Staff and volunteers will:

- 1. Be fair, considerate and honest with others.
- 2. Treat children and young people with respect, listen to and value their ideas and opinions, and protect their wellbeing.
- 3. Remember to act as positive role models in their conduct with children and young people.
- 4. Operate within the policies and guidelines of GRIP Leadership, its programs and activities.
- 5. Be professional in their actions through their use of language, presentation, manner and punctuality.
- 6. Resolve conflicts fairly and promptly, and report on any breaches of these standards of behaviour to GRIP Leadership's Managing Director.
- 7. Maintain strict impartiality.
- 8. Comply with specific organisational guidelines on physical contact with children.
- 9. Respect the privacy of children, their families and teachers/carers, and only disclose information to people who have a need to know.
- 10. Maintain a child safe environment for children and young people.

# Management, staff and volunteers will not:

- 1. Engage in behaviour that is intended to shame, humiliate, oppress, belittle or degrade children or young people.
- 2. Discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, culture, belief, vulnerability or sexuality.
- 3. Engage in any activity with a child or young person that is likely to physically or emotionally harm them.
- 4. Initiate unnecessary physical contact with a child or young person, or do things of a personal nature for them that they can do for themselves.
- 5. Be alone with a child or young person for more than a very short time.
- 6. Develop a 'special' relationship with a specific child or young person for our own needs.
- 7. Show favouritism through the provision of gifts or inappropriate attention.
- 8. Arrange contact with children or young people outside of the organisation's programs and activities and Events.
- 9. Photograph or video a child or young person without the consent of the child and his/her parents or guardians.
- 10. Work with children or young people while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

#### SAFETY POLICY - EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

The GRIP Leadership Workplace Health & Safety Management System contains a detailed Emergency Evacuation Plan however this does not cover venues outside of our control.

The Emergency Evacuation Plan for each venue where we conduct events is a matter for the venue operator and in most instances will be available on their web page.

At the start of each Conference we will give such information as may be required and necessary to ensure the health and safety of every participant in any Conference we conduct.

We are not able to provide details prior to any Conference of the Emergency Evacuation Plan of any venues which are not under our control. We do however require from each venue evidence that their Safety System (which includes a Emergency Evacuation plan) is up to date and compliant with current applicable standards and legislation.

For more details please request in writing to <a href="mailto:info@gripleadership.com.au">info@gripleadership.com.au</a>

Andrew Strong

Managing Director - Operations

**GRIP** Leadership