

FAQ – Working with Children Checks (WWCC) 2026/27

Do I need to complete the SLSNSW Membership Protection Declaration Form?

No. This form is **not required** to be completed by members in NSW.

Who needs a check?

Any SLSNSW member, aged over 18, who works with members under the age of 18 will need to complete the check, unless they are covered by an exemption under the legislation. Please review the flowchart in the [2026/27 SLSNSW Working with Children Check Requirements](#) to determine if you need a WWCC for your role.

What does a WWCC Number look like?

A WWCC Number for a paid position will have an 'E' on the end (e.g. WWC1234567E). A WWCC number for a volunteer position will have a 'V' on the end (e.g. WWC1234567V).

Do volunteers need to pay for a WWCC?

No, WWCCs for volunteers are free.

WWCCs for **paid workers** increased from \$107 to \$112 on 1/7/2026.

Can I use a volunteer WWCC Number (WWC1234567V) for a paid position?

No. You must go online and upgrade to a WWCC for paid employees.

Can I use a paid WWCC Number (WWC1234567E) for a volunteer position?

Yes, a WWCC Number gained for a paid position can be used for both paid and volunteer positions.

Can I start working before my WWCC number comes back?

If there is an urgent need for a member to start in a role before the WWCC comes back, a WWCC Application Number can be provided to the club to use for verification on the Employer Portal on the Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG) website.

Please note, an Application Number can only be used to verify after proof of identity has been supplied to Service NSW and the WWCC Number will still need to be provided to the club for re-verification with the OCG.

I'm a parent, am I exempt from getting a WWCC?

Under the legislation, parents who volunteer for an activity in which their child or children participate are exempt from obtaining a WWCC. This is not a blanket exemption for all parents.

Parents require a WWCC if they:

- are volunteering on overnight camps;
- are volunteering for an activity and their child is **not** participating (e.g. doing water safety or age manager for a different age group in Nippers)
- are volunteering as part of a formal mentoring program; or
- are volunteering in a role which involves intimate, personal care of children with a disability.

Where can I get a WWCC Number?

Apply online at [Office of Children's Guardian](#).

How long is a WWCC valid for?

A WWCC must be renewed every 5 years.

How can I check my personal WWCC Number or Expiry Date?

You can find your WWCC number;

- On the email you received when you were cleared OR
- On the Service NSW app

You will need your driver's licence number or WWCC application number [here](#).

How does a club verify a WWCC number through the Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG)?

1. Register as an 'employer' with the OCG

If not already completed, register via the [registration portal](#). Online help can be found [here](#).

2. Identify who will need a WWCC and inform the individuals.

It is recommended that you document that an individual has been informed they need a WWCC, to ensure this person gets their WWCC before starting in a child-related role.

The 'Notes' field under the 'Declaration' section on a member's SurfGuard profile could be used for documenting and tracking who has been contacted.

In SurfGuard, find the Members Profile and from the toolbar click '**Membership(s)**' / find '**Member Protection (Surf Life Saving NSW)**' on the right-hand side / click the edit icon / use the **Notes** under **Declaration**.

3. Complete the online verification in the Employer Portal with the OCG

Login to the [OCG employer portal](#) and use the WWCC Number, family name and date of birth to verify. Online help can be found [here](#).

A member of my club is a Police Officer. Do they still need a WWCC?

NSW Police and Australian Federal Police are exempt from the requirements to get a WWCC in their role as a police officer, however they are **not exempt** in any other roles they hold – including a child-related role in their club. For more information visit [Office of Children's Guardian](#).

Can I ask people not covered by the legislation to complete a WWCC?

No. Asking someone who is covered by an exemption under the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012 to complete a WWCC means you are not compliant with the legislation. If you are not compliant with the legislation, you may be contacted by the Office of the Children's Guardian and given a timeline within which to become compliant. If you do not comply according to the timeline, the matter can escalate and penalties may apply.

Further information is available [here](#):

Which roles in SLS don't need a WWCC and why?

When reviewing the table below, please note that:

- The information in the table below applies only to the role being described.
- If a member performs multiple roles in Surf Life Saving, they may be required to complete a WWCC for one or more of their other roles.
- If a role is **not** mentioned below, it does **not** mean it automatically requires a WWCC. There are some exemptions relating to the frequency and context of the role being performed.

For more comprehensive information relating to WWCCs and the exemptions that apply, please see the [2026/27 SLSNSW Working with Children Check Requirements](#).

Position	Reason why a WWCC is not needed
Administrative, maintenance or ancillary work (<i>this includes BBQ and canteen helpers</i>).	These roles do not ordinarily involve contact with children for extended periods of time. Therefore, they are not deemed as child-related roles.
Committee member (including Chief Training Officers, Club Captains etc.)	
Patrol Captain, Patrol Vice Captains and patrol members	Patrol members, regardless of age or position are considered co-workers and seen as peers. There is an exemption for co-workers and supervisors in the child's place of work which, in this instance, is patrol.