



MBBI BLUE CARD POLICY

Introduction

The Blue Card system is a Queensland Government scheme that is a key prevention and monitoring system of people working with children and young people in Queensland.

The system aims to minimise the risks of harm to children and young people by contributing to the creation of safe and supportive environments and is founded on the principle that all children have a fundamental right to be protected from harm.

For more information about the Blue Card system visit the Queensland Government website:

<https://www.bluecard.qld.gov.au/>

Who Needs A Blue Card?

The Queensland Government stipulate that “*Volunteers and trainee students need a blue card if their work or practical placement in sport and active recreation includes, or is likely to include, providing services that are directed mainly towards children, or conducting activities that mainly involve children, unless an exemption applies.*”

For MBBI the relevant categories are:

Paid Employees - A paid employee can commence regulated child-related work **once their application is lodged** with Blue Card Services

Volunteer - A volunteer or unpaid trainee student must **not commence** regulated child-related work until **they hold a valid blue card**.

Police Officers and Teachers - Police officers and registered teachers do not apply for a blue card and should instead **apply for an exemption card** under this category if they are providing child-related services which are outside of their professional duties.

Penalties

Blue Cards are a requirement under the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*. There are a range of penalties for not complying with the Act and they can be as much as \$63,075 for employees and \$12,615 for others.



MBBI also impose additional penalties which are:

First Offence:

Immediate suspension of volunteer/Coach/Manager/paid employee from duties with MBBI or any associated activities or club until compliant with the MBBI Blue Card Policy.

Second Offence:

Immediate suspension of volunteer/Coach/Manager/paid employee from duties with MBBI or any associated activities or club until compliant with the MBBI Blue Card Policy. If the individual is in a regulated position with a team, the team will suffer a loss of competition points for each game the individual has been involved. Second offence for a paid employee or volunteer in regulated child-related work who is not who is not directly involved with a specific team automatically attracts a ban of up to 6 Months (at MBBI Board discretion) from working with MBBI in any regulated child-related capacity.

Third Offence:

Immediate suspension of volunteer/Coach/Manager/paid employee from duties with MBBI or any associated activities or club until compliant with the MBBI Blue Card Policy. If the individual is in a regulated position with a team, the team will suffer a loss of competition points for each game the individual has been involved. An appearance before a tribunal hearing on a charge of "Conduct: Bringing Basketball into Disrepute, for both the volunteer/Coach/Manager/paid employee and for the club President or Principle.