New Zealand Ju-Jitsu Federation (NZJJF)

Child Protection Policy

BACKGROUND

Child protection within the NZJJF is about practices that keep children safe within their Ju-jitsu training, and ensuring that potential abuse and neglect, along with general concerns about child wellbeing, are identified and appropriately responded to.

Child protection is everyone's concern. It is key to building an NZJJF culture of child protection, in accordance with the Children's Action Plan and the Vulnerable Children Act 2014, where the safety and security of children is paramount.

It is about balancing what children want to get from their sports experience while ensuring they are not subject to harm caused by an adverse social/or physical environment, and that any risk or vulnerability to the child outside of NZJJF activities are identified and acted upon.

More information on the Children's Action Plan and the Vulnerable Children Act 2014 can be found at: www.childrensactionplan.govt.nz

PURPOSE

The well-being and safety of children and young people is a paramount concern of the NZJJF. This includes the prevention and identification of child abuse/neglect or maltreatment.

The interest and welfare of the child or young person will be the primary consideration when any action is taken about suspected abuse. This organisation supports the roles of statutory agencies (the Police and Oranga Tamariki) in the investigation of abuse and will report cases of suspected abuse to these agencies, following the process outlined in this policy.

POLICY

This policy guides the actions of the NZJJF, its members and its coaches whenever there is a concern about the abuse or mistreatment of children by adults or their peers.

This policy applies to all members of the NZJJF and more specifically to those coaches who coach children.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The NZJJF would like to thank Simon Ogden OSA, Sport New Zealand, and Safeguarding Children for their help and guidance in the writing of this Policy

DEFINITIONS

According to the Children, Young Persons, and Their Families Act 1989:

Child – any child or young person aged under 17 years, and who is not married or in a civil union.

Physical abuse - any acts that may result in physical harm of a child or young person.

Sexual abuse - any acts that involve forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, whether or not they are aware of what is happening.

Emotional abuse - any act or omission that results in adverse or impaired psychological, social, intellectual and emotional functioning or development.

Neglect - the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical or psychological needs, leading to adverse or impaired physical or emotional functioning or development.

Family violence may be witnessed/experienced

New Zealand Ju-Jitsu Federation (NZJJF)

Child Protection Policy

PREVENTION

All coaches within the NZJJF are obliged to operate by the NZJJF Code of Ethics [1].
All Club coaches should have passed the NZJJF C2 Club Coach Qualification [2]. All registered C2 qualified club coaches as part of their C2 qualification must consent to a criminal record check and be First Aid trained and certified [2].
In accordance with our NZJJF Privacy Policy [3], if at any time coaches wish to use photographic or video equipment as a coaching aid, parents and young people must be made aware that that it is part of the coaching programme and how the footage will be used and stored.
The NZJJF Director of Sport is our organisations designated Child Protection Officer.

Reference

[1] https://nzjjf.org.nz/NZJJF/jujitsu/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/NZJJF_CoE_2012.pdf
[2] https://nzjjf.org.nz/NZJJF/jujitsu/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/NZJJF-Instructor-and-Coach-policy-2020.pdf
[3] https://nzjjf.org.nz/NZJJF/jujitsu/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/NZJJF-Privacy-Policy-2020.pdf

TRAINING

The C2 coaching qualification covers safe practices within Ju-jitsu.
NZJJF recommends, as additional reading within its C2 coaching course, that coaches undertake the eLearning Basic Awareness & Child Protection course by Safeguarding Children Initiative or Safeguarding and protecting children and young people via NZ Sport Tutor

IDENTIFYING CHILD ABUSE

It is normal for people to feel uncertain, however, the important thing is that everyone should be able to recognise when something is wrong, especially if a pattern is noticed or several signs together cause concern.
More information on Identifying Child Abuse can be found at: https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/worried-about-a-child-tell-us/identify-abuse/

RESPONDING

According to The Safeguarding Children Initiative the question to ask when suspecting Child Abuse is NOT “what if I am wrong?”, but “what if I am RIGHT?”
Under sections 15 and 16 of the Children, Young Persons, and Their Families Act 1989, any person who believes that a child has been or is likely to be, harmed physically, emotionally or sexually or ill-treated, abused, neglected or deprived may report the matter to Oranga Tamariki or the Police and provided the report is made in good faith, no civil, criminal or disciplinary proceedings may be brought against them.
So that means by law you can report a concern based on a belief or suspicion.

- If possible talk to parents or carers about your concerns, unless doing so would increase the risk to the child or place yourself in danger.
- Document any conversations or observations. Carefully record what you have seen, heard and done promptly.

You may also contact the NZJJF Director of Sport to discuss any issues, but if the child is in immediate danger or you are unable to contact the NZJJF Director of Sport do

Child Protection Policy

	not delay in contacting Oranga Tamariki or the Police. The appendices to this policy provide additional guidance on responding to Child Protection.
CONTACTING OT/POLICE	If you are still concerned contact Oranga Tamariki on; 0508 FAMILY (0508 326 459) If the child is at immediate risk contact the Police on 111 at once. You can ask for whatever advice, assistance and support you need. Give clear, accurate details, including: • child's name and date of birth if known • child's address • name of parents or carers if known • your concerns • Retain a copy of the Report of Concern for NZJJF records, including the time, date when you contacted Oranga Tamariki or the Police Oranga Tamariki or the Police will provide advice on what to do next, and they will take responsibility for ensuring appropriate investigations are undertaken if necessary. The NZJJF will act on recommendations made by statutory agencies concerning the official reporting of suspected abuse
REVIEW	If you are interested in Child Protection and would like more information on this NZJJF initiative, contact the Director of Sport by e-mail. This policy is under the remit of the NZJJF Director of Sport and will be reviewed at least every three years by the NZJJF Committee.

New Zealand Ju-Jitsu Federation (NZJJF)

Child Protection Policy

Appendices

The following appendices can be used as a guide for your dojo requirements.

ADOPTED DECEMBER 2015

REVIEWED JANUARY 2025

You suspect, believe or identify any cause for concern or indication of abuse, neglect or domestic violence involving a child or young person.

Child is NOT at immediate risk

- Remain calm.
- Carefully Record
  - The date, time, location and the names that may be relevant.
  - The factual concerns or observations that have led to the suspicion of abuse or neglect (e.g., any physical, behavioural or developmental concerns).
  - The action taken by you/your club.
  - Any other information that may be relevant.
- Discuss with;
  - Parents/Caregivers if no risk.
  - NZJJF Director of Sport.

Notify Oranga Tamariki promptly if there is a belief that a child has been, or is likely to be, abused or neglected.

Phone: 0508 Family (0508 326 459)

Fax: 09 914 1211

email: contact@ot.govt.nz

Child is in IMMEDIATE danger

Call the POLICE on 111

If you are concerned, you can follow up the report after 48 working hours to check action has been taken.

NEW ZEALAND JU JITSU FEDERATION

Safeguarding Children Initiative
Working together safeguarding children
Tiakina ngā tamariki

Appendix 2

A disclosure of abuse or neglect is made by a child or young person.

- Listen to the child.
- Reassure the child.
- Ask open-ended prompts – e.g., "What happened next?"
- Do NOT make promises or commitments you cannot keep.
- Do NOT formally interview the child – obtain only necessary relevant facts if and when clarification is needed.

If Child is distressed; provide appropriate reassurance and re-engage in appropriate activities under supervision until they are able to participate in

Child is NOT at immediate risk

- Remain calm.
- Carefully Record
  - Word for word what the child said.
  - The date, time, location and the names that may be relevant.
  - Any factual concerns or observations (e.g., any physical, behavioural or developmental concerns).
  - The action taken by you/your club.
  - Any other information that may be relevant.
- Discuss with;
  - Parents/Caregivers if no risk.

Child is in IMMEDIATE danger

Call the POLICE on 111

Notify Oranga Tamariki promptly if there is a belief that a child has been, or is likely to be, abused or neglected.
Phone: 0508 Family (0508 326 459)
Fax: 09 914 1211
email: contact@ot.govt.nz

If you are concerned, you can follow up the report after 48 working hours to check action has been taken.

NEW ZEALAND JU JITSU FEDERATION

Safeguarding Children Initiative
Working together safeguarding children
Tiakina ngā tamariki

Allegations/Disclosure against an NZJJF Instructor.

- Listen to the child.
- Reassure the child.
- Ask open-ended prompts – e.g., "What happened next?"

Child is NOT at immediate risk

- Remain calm.
- Record
  - Word for word what the child said.
  - The date, time, location and the names that may be relevant.
  - Any factual concerns or observations (e.g., any physical, behavioural or developmental concerns).
  - Any actions taken.
  - Any other information that may be relevant.
- Notify;

- NZJJF Committee will consult with Oranga Tamariki or the Police.
- Oranga Tamariki or NZJJF to advise those involved and seek responses (depending on outcomes of discussions with statutory agencies.)

Child is in IMMEDIATE danger

Call the POLICE on 111

NZJJF will maintain a close liaison with Oranga Tamariki or the Police.

A disciplinary process is initiated as per NZJJF Rules and Regulations under the guidance of the NZJJF Chairman.