

Blazing Swan Policy on Children

The Blazing Swan community acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all First Nations Australia peoples today.

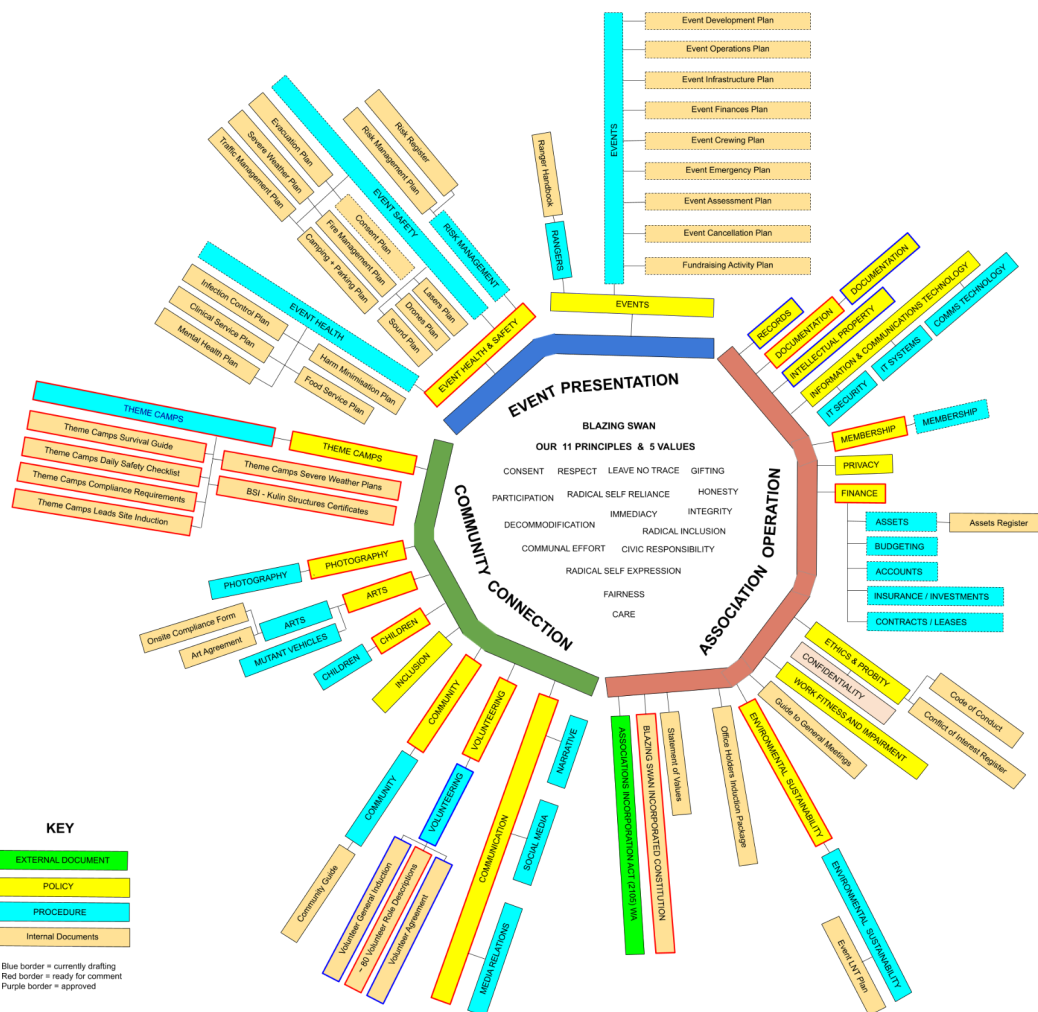
1. Purpose, Scope and Use

Children are the future of the Blazing Swan organisation and community. BSI's intention is to create opportunities for children and their guardians to be involved with BSI Events and BSI activities all year round. This policy affirms BSI's role in creating an environment where children are valued, safe, and given opportunities to develop. This Policy provides the framework for the creation of Structures, Procedures and Systems that will further these aims.

The use of the terms 'must', 'should', and 'may' or 'might' in this document have specific meanings. 'Must' allows for no choice. 'Should' points to a preferred option. 'Might' or 'May' points to one option among many, including but not limited to 'might not' and 'may not'.

This policy document is written in 'plain English' style and where there is any ambiguity the BSI Committee asserts the right to interpret the meaning of any part of the policy document as it sees fit and have that interpretation accepted by all parties as final.

2. Documentation Context



3. BSI is bound to comply with relevant laws, regulations and mandated standards, and in accordance with its stated Principles and Core Values.

BSI will act in accordance with its Constitution and with the rules governing organisations of its type. In creating and conducting Events such as Blazing Swan, BSI will act in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations and mandated standards for such Events, including BSI's own policies and procedures. Where standards are discretionary BSI undertakes to meet them to the best extent possible in the circumstances that apply at their Events. BSI also operates in accordance with the 11 Principles (Radical Inclusion, Gifting, Decommodification, Radical Self Reliance, Radical Self Expression, Communal Effort, Civic Responsibility, Leave No Trace, Participation and Immediacy) and the 5 Core Values (Fairness, Honesty, Respect, Care and Integrity). In creating and implementing this Policy, and all the Structures, Procedures and Systems that flow from it, BSI is mindful of these obligations and expectations.

4. Blazing Swan Incorporated has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Blazing Swan Incorporated (BSI) has zero tolerance for child abuse. Everyone working at BSI has a responsibility to create and maintain a safe environment for children, and a responsibility to report information about suspected child abuse occurring at any BSI facility or event or in association with any activity undertaken, sponsored or facilitated by BSI.

5. Minors attending BSI events attendance at BSI Events must be accompanied and supervised by an adult parent or guardian.

Anyone under 18 years of age is a minor and must be accompanied to BSI Events by their parent or guardian, and be under effective supervision of that parent or guardian at all times while attending the event. BSI understands that a guardian is defined in law in Western Australia. Parents and guardians take full responsibility and liability for minors under their care.

6. Minors and their parents or guardians are admitted to BSI events conditionally.

BSI will apply conditions to the admission of minors and their presence at BSI events, including a requirement that children and their parents or guardians comply with the event ticketing terms and conditions. BSI reserves the right to vary or extend the initial conditions applying to the entry and presence of minors and their parents or guardians and is only obliged in that case to refund the pro rata value of tickets held by those parents or guardians and minors who leave the event early as a result of any new or varied condition applying to their attendance.

7. BSI will make reasonable endeavours to mitigate the risk to minors at BSI events, but responsibility ultimately falls upon parents or guardians bringing minors to BSI events.

The Blazing Swan event and site is challenging. BSI will make reasonable endeavours to mitigate the health and safety risks to minors at BSI events and will meet their legal obligations and duty of care towards minors. Furthermore, BSI makes it a condition of approval for Theme Camps to operate at BSI's events that Theme Camp Leads meet their legal obligations in respect of resident or visiting minors. None of this, however, diminishes the duty of care that parents and guardians have towards minors in their care. In bringing minors to a BSI event, parents and guardians acknowledge that they accept responsibility for adverse consequences that may affect minors under their supervision at that event.

BSI will under no circumstances permit a person under 18 years of age to enter or remain in any area designated as a BSI worksite, regardless of whether they are accompanied by a parent or guardian..

8. BSI may offer subsidies and assistance to parents or guardians with minors attending BSI events.

BSI may - but is not obliged to - offer subsidies or material assistance to parents or guardians with minors attending BSI events.

9. BSI acknowledges that minors and their parents or guardians have an important role to play in the Blazing Swan organisation and community.

BSI commits to creating appropriate opportunities for minors and their parents or guardians to be involved in developing and presenting BSI events and activities. BSI also commits to consulting with minors and their parents or guardians when it comes to designing and operating BSI facilities.

BSI has created a class of non-voting membership of the Blazing Swan Association open for persons aged 12 years and over and under 18 years of age..

BSI commits to creating a volunteer role working for the Association which is tasked with advocating for child and family issues in the context of the Association's operations and events.

10. References.

- [National Principles for Child Safe Organisations](#)
- [Child Safe Organisations Project](#)
- [Blazing Swan Incorporated Constitution](#)

END

Document Control

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7 Apr 2022	1st Draft	Created	John McCann
8 Jan 2024	Final	Approved	Committee

Document Distribution

Part	Action following Approval
Original Copy (editable):	Store: BSI GDrive > Blazing Swan Issued Documents > Policies
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