



# COACHES ARE, IN SO MANY WAYS THE SPORT

**They are the people children listen to, learn from and respect. Just as a great coach can inspire the hearts and minds of children to want to train and compete in sport, a poor coach can cause young participants and their families to walk away – never to return.**

A network of appropriately qualified coaches who have completed appropriate coaching qualifications will assist in creating a safe environment and improve coaching capability to inspire the hearts and minds of children and young people, thereby retaining them in the game.

At the heart of the new Coaching and Vulnerable Persons policy is the need to maintain a healthy, safe and enjoyable environment for all those who play cricket.

Children enjoy their experience most when they are in a safe environment, learn and improve, play with their mates and are given opportunities to contribute.

Adults interacting with children and/or vulnerable adults are in a position of trust and influence and, as such, have a significant role to play in creating this safe environment. As a part of NZC's overall push for "best practice" standards in the area of coaching and supervision, the Vulnerable Persons policy and coach qualification is viewed as a fundamental requirement.

In terms of the police vetting process, NZC wishes to emphasise this is not an attempt to identify or disqualify individuals with minor or irrelevant criminal records, either current or historic. On the contrary, the initiative is based on creating safer and more secure cricketing environments for both children and vulnerable adults, and for those charged with upholding a duty of care and responsibility – ie: NZC, MAs, DAs and clubs.

***NZC would like to take this opportunity to thank coaches for all that you do and the valuable impact you have on our young New Zealanders. Best of luck next season.***

