



Child Safeguarding Initiative

MANAGING INTEGRITY IN SPORT COURSE

BUILDING SSA CAPABILITY TO LEAD SAFEGUARDING AND INTEGRITY

CONTEXT

Sport Integrity Australia (SIA), in partnership with the WA Government and SportWest (True Sport), delivered a two-day Managing Integrity in Sport course for State Sporting Associations (SSAs) and sport leaders across Western Australia.

Held in-person at the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport, the course aimed to strengthen the capability of sport leaders to manage integrity issues, with a strong focus on child safeguarding, complaints handling, and governance.



KEY CHALLENGES

1. Growing Integrity Risks

SSAs faced increasing safeguarding, member protection, and reputational risks, with limited confidence managing complex issues.

2. Limited Complaint Handling Experience

Leaders struggled to apply policies in real scenarios, escalate issues, and engage Boards effectively.

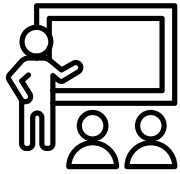
3. Need for Leadership Buy-In

Integrity was not always prioritised at leadership and governance levels.

4. Policy-to-Practice Gap

SSAs needed support translating frameworks into daily operations and culture.

ACTIONS TAKEN



Two-Day Intensive Training

In-person course enabling deep engagement, discussion, and skill-building.



National Integrity Framework Focus

Training covered safeguarding, member protection, and complaints management.



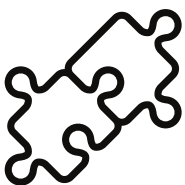
Scenario-Based Learning

Participants worked through real cases, building practical decision-making and confidence.



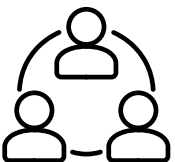
Leadership & Governance Focus

Targeted CEOs, Presidents, and managers to embed accountability and strategic ownership.



Safeguarding & Mental Health Integration

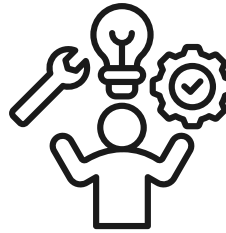
Highlighted links between integrity, wellbeing, and safe environments.



Sector Collaboration

Connected SSAs with SIA, government, and peers to strengthen networks.

OUTCOMES



Increased Leadership Capability

Stronger skills in managing integrity risks, complaints, and complex decisions.



Improved Safeguarding Practice

Better application of frameworks and responses to child safety concerns.



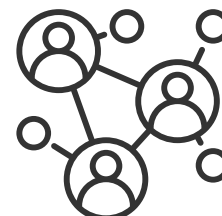
Stronger Governance

Greater confidence advising Boards and embedding integrity in strategy.



National Alignment

Improved adoption of the National Integrity Framework and best practice.



Established Network

Ongoing connections and shared commitment across WA sport.

KEY LEARNINGS



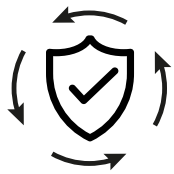
Leadership Drives Safeguarding

Success depends on governance, accountability, and leadership commitment.



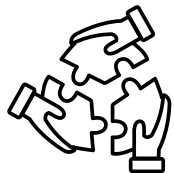
Practical Training Works

Scenario-based learning builds confidence and turns policy into action.



Integrity Is Holistic

Extends beyond compliance to safeguarding, culture, and wellbeing.



Collaboration Strengthens Impact

Cross-sector partnerships create consistency and shared standards.



KEY INSIGHT

This case study demonstrates how targeted, leadership-focused education can elevate safeguarding and integrity from a compliance requirement to a strategic priority - equipping SSA leaders to proactively manage risks, lead cultural change, and embed True Sport principles across their organisations.

