

Safeguarding risk assessment

The purpose of the risk assessment is to:

- identify whether there are any significant risks of someone being harmed
- if so, decide which actions are needed to reduce or eliminate the risk.

The following is a simple safeguarding risk assessment template that can be adapted for use at a major sporting event. Some specific risks for each risk category have been provided as a guide to start the assessment. Note that based on the nature of the sporting event, the risks could be different or reduced; hence it is important to consult with the organising committee at the start of the planning phase to do the risk assessment. This will ensure the actions to mitigate the risk are implemented.

The risk rating means the likelihood of harm occurring:

High: No mitigating arrangements are in place to address the risk and the likelihood of an incident occurring is high because no action has been taken yet.

Medium: Some mitigating arrangements are in place but may not be consistently applied or understood by all, hence the likelihood of an incident occurring is medium.

Low: Strong mitigating arrangements are in place and have been clearly communicated and consistently applied by all, hence the likelihood of an incident occurring is low.



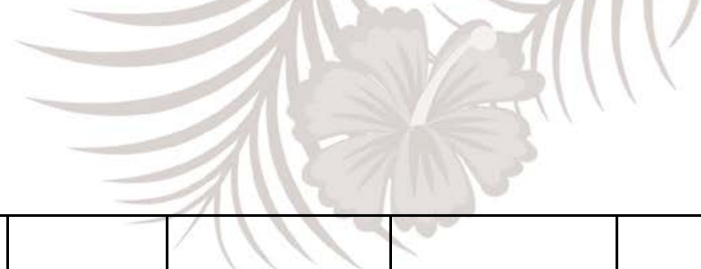
Team Up GEDSI and Safeguarding Advisor Roshika Deo, para-athlete Mere Roden and Smash Down Barriers Program Manager Harvi Yee at the Palau 2025 Pacific Mini Games

Date/time:
Event:
Location/s:
Children/vulnerable adults involved:

Name of person responsible for updating this risk assessment document:

General safeguarding risk areas	Specific risks	Actions needed to reduce or remove each risk	Current risk likelihood: high, medium, or low	Person/ department/ timeline responsible for addressing the issue and by when	Progress Monitor that actions are taken and completed within set deadlines	
People	People don't report safeguarding concern					
	Adults fail to adequately supervise children					
	People use discriminatory or harmful language					
	Inappropriate relationship that crosses professional boundary between adults and children					
	Personal boundary violations or abuse disguised as 'treatment' against children by medical staff and physiotherapists					

General safeguarding risk areas	Specific risks	Actions needed to reduce or remove each risk	Current risk likelihood: high, medium, or low	Person/ department/ timeline responsible for addressing the issue and by when	Progress Monitor that actions are taken and completed within set deadlines
	Venues with young athletes or vulnerable groups that are open to the public – uncontrolled areas				
Venues and facilities	Medical and physiotherapy care being provided in public or spectator areas with no privacy and dignity				
	No accessible toilets and shower facilities for para-athletes				
Information	Safeguarding reports shared beyond those who need to know				
	Inconsistent records and poor documentation between shifts				
Travel and accommodation	Workforce and officials unsure about what information should be reported to safeguarding team				
	Staring and sexually suggestive comments in changing and shower areas				



General safeguarding risk areas	Specific risks	Actions needed to reduce or remove each risk	Current risk likelihood: high, medium, or low	Person/ department/ timeline responsible for addressing the issue and by when	Progress Monitor that actions are taken and completed within set deadlines
	Young athletes sleeping with adult athletes in the same room				
	No separation of sleeping spaces for women and men officials/athletes				
	Shuttles transporting athletes, including young athletes, to dining hall in the evenings with no supervision				
	Poor lighting along the pathways to the toilets which are located at a distance from the accommodation				
Communications and social media	Photos taken of young athletes in changing rooms				
	People are confused about how to report safeguarding concerns				
	Use of mobile phones in showers and changing room				

General safeguarding risk areas	Specific risks	Actions needed to reduce or remove each risk	Current risk likelihood: high, medium, or low	Person/ department/ timeline responsible for addressing the issue and by when	Progress Monitor that actions are taken and completed within set deadlines
	Sexualised and sexist slurs and emojis directed at athletes, including young athletes, on the official social media channels				
General welfare issues	Heat stress leading to injury and extreme fatigue				
	Structure of games and schedule leaving little time for rest and recovery				