



Regulation 6.3 – Equipment Use & Maintenance Policy.

Effective date: June 2025

Acknowledgements

MUSC CIC would like to express our thanks to the following organisations who have assisted in the development of this policy

POLICY STATEMENT

Mariners United Sporting Club CIC (MUSC CIC) is committed to ensuring that all equipment used in connection with its activities is suitable for purpose, safe to use and properly maintained. The organisation recognises that poor equipment use or inadequate maintenance can create avoidable risks to participants, staff, volunteers and members of the public.

This policy sets out the standards and responsibilities for the use, inspection, storage and maintenance of equipment used during MUSC CIC activities, including sport-specific training and competition equipment.

1. INTERPRETATION

For the purposes of this regulation, equipment includes all sporting equipment, training aids, protective surfaces, personal protective equipment, tools and technology used by MUSC CIC in the delivery of its activities. This includes equipment owned by MUSC CIC, hired equipment and equipment provided by third parties.

This policy applies to all MUSC CIC directors, staff, volunteers, participants and contractors who use, handle, supervise or manage equipment in connection with MUSC CIC activities.

2. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

All equipment must be used only for its intended purpose and in accordance with manufacturer guidance, safety instructions and any training or briefing provided. Equipment must be appropriate to the age, ability and experience of participants and must not be used if it is damaged, defective or considered unsafe.

MUSC CIC shall take reasonable steps to ensure that all shared equipment meets appropriate safety standards and is suitable for the environment in which it is used.

3. JIGSAW MATS FOR TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS

MUSC CIC uses interlocking jigsaw mats as the primary protective surface for kabaddi training sessions, competitions and related physical activities. These mats are selected to provide appropriate shock absorption, grip and surface stability to reduce the risk of injury during play.

Prior to each session or event, designated staff, coaches or event leads must ensure that jigsaw mats are correctly assembled, securely interlocked and laid on a suitable, level surface. Mats must be checked to ensure there are no gaps, raised edges, movement or visible damage that could present a trip or injury hazard.

Damaged, worn or defective mats must be removed from use immediately and clearly identified as unsafe until repaired or replaced. Mats must be cleaned, dried and stored appropriately after use to prevent deterioration, hygiene risks or damage. Transport and storage arrangements must prevent bending, warping or contamination of the mats.

During competitions, additional checks must be carried out to ensure mat layout complies with event requirements and that the playing area is clearly defined and safe for participants, officials and support staff.

4. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Personal protective equipment required for participation in MUSC CIC activities includes,

but is not limited to, mouth guards and rash guards. The use of appropriate personal protective equipment supports injury prevention, hygiene and safe participation.

Players are individually responsible for providing, wearing and maintaining their own personal protective equipment, including mouth guards and rash guards. MUSC CIC does not provide individual mouth guards or rash guards for participants and accepts no responsibility for personal equipment that is lost, damaged or inadequately maintained.

Participants must ensure that personal protective equipment is suitable, clean, in good condition and appropriate for the activity. Failure to wear required protective equipment may result in a participant being excluded from training or competition for safety reasons.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

MUSC CIC is responsible for establishing systems for the safe provision, inspection and maintenance of shared equipment, including jigsaw mats. Event leads, coaches and activity leaders are responsible for ensuring that equipment is checked prior to use and that unsafe equipment is withdrawn immediately.

Participants are responsible for using equipment responsibly, following instructions and reporting any defects, hazards or concerns as soon as they become aware of them. Participants are also responsible for their own personal protective equipment.

Contractors and third parties providing equipment must ensure that it is safe, fit for purpose and maintained in accordance with relevant standards.

6. INSPECTION, FAULTS AND INCIDENTS

Equipment must be inspected regularly and prior to use. Any faults, damage or incidents involving equipment must be reported immediately in accordance with MUSC CIC's Incident Reporting Procedure. Equipment involved in an incident must not be reused until it has been assessed and deemed safe.

7. STORAGE AND TRANSPORT

All shared equipment, including jigsaw mats, must be stored in a safe, clean and secure manner to prevent damage, deterioration or unauthorised access. Equipment must be transported safely, secured properly and handled in a way that minimises risk during loading, transit and unloading.

8. TRAINING AND SUPERVISION

MUSC CIC shall ensure that staff and volunteers responsible for setting up, inspecting or supervising equipment are appropriately briefed or trained. Equipment that requires specific competence must only be handled by authorised individuals.

9. REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE

This policy shall be reviewed periodically by the MUSC CIC Board to ensure it remains effective and appropriate to organisational activities. Failure to comply with this policy may be treated as a breach of MUSC CIC policies and may result in disciplinary or exclusionary action.