

The Working with Vulnerable People Act (WWVP) commenced operation in the Australian Capital Territory on 8 November 2012.

The WWVP Act introduces a requirement for people who have contact with children and disadvantaged adults in the course of engaging in certain regulated activities or services to be registered with the Office of Regulatory Services (ORS), Justice and Community Safety Directorate.

The purpose of the WWVP Act is to reduce the risk of harm to children and disadvantaged adults by implementing a consistent background checking and risk assessment process.

What does this mean for you?

The WWVP Act establishes a staged approach for registrations over a 6-year period. Members of Baseball Canberra have been identified as providers of regulated activities and services captured in year three of the scheme's operation. As a result, employees and volunteers (coaches, managers, etc) who engage with children will be required to be registered with ORS between 8 November 2014 and 7 November 2015.

In accordance with the WWVP Act, an activity or service is a regulated activity if the activity is conducted or the service is provided by a <u>club or association</u> and the club or association has significant membership or involvement by children, or people accessing a regulated activity.

Coaching and Tuition:

An activity or service is a regulated activity if any of the usual functions of the activity or service include coaching or tuition specifically for children; or people accessing a regulated activity mentioned in part 1.2; and the coaching or tuition is provided by a commercial entity.

Communication and Education

The ORS has published 'A Guide to Working with Vulnerable People in the ACT' and 'Frequently asked Questions' (FAQs) for sporting clubs and teams in the ACT: <u>http://www.ors.act.gov.au/publication/view/2115</u>

ORS has a range of other informative fact sheets to introduce the scheme which are available on the ORS website at: <u>http://www.ors.act.gov.au/community/working with vulnerable people wwvp</u>

For a detailed overview, the WWVP legislation can be found on the ACT Legislation Register or contact ORS on: **Telephone: (02) 6207 3000 or Email:** <u>wwvp@act.gov.au</u>