

Vertrouwenscontactpersoon (VCP) Dutch Lacrosse Association

1. Introduction

The Dutch Lacrosse Association (NLB) is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all members of the lacrosse community. To support this commitment, we appoint **Vertrouwenscontactpersonen (VCPs)**, confidential advisors within our organization who are available to listen, support, and guide individuals experiencing or witnessing undesirable behavior.

This policy outlines the role of the VCP, how and when to contact them, and what support they can offer.

2. What is a Vertrouwenscontactpersoon (VCP)?

A **Vertrouwenscontactpersoon (VCP)** is a trained, independent, and trusted point of contact within the NLB. The VCP is available for athletes, coaches, volunteers, referees, parents, and others who:

- Experience or witness **intimidation, discrimination, exclusion, sexual harassment, abuse**, or other forms of **undesirable behavior**
- Feel unsafe or uncomfortable within the lacrosse environment
- Have questions or doubts about behavior, boundaries, or what is appropriate
- Want to **confidentially discuss concerns** without immediately filing a formal complaint

3. Role and Responsibilities of the VCP

The VCP is **not a counselor or investigator**, but provides:

- A confidential listening ear:** creating space for individuals to share their concerns safely
- Information and advice** on possible next steps
- Referral** to appropriate support services, including:
 - Club or association boards
 - External confidential advisors (e.g. at NOC*NSF/Centrum Veilige Sport)

Professional care providers or reporting bodies
Raising awareness about safe sport and behavior within the lacrosse community

The VCP does **not** take disciplinary action or mediate disputes. Their role is advisory, supportive, and preventive.

4. When and How to Contact a VCP

Anyone involved in Dutch lacrosse (players, coaches, officials, parents, staff) can contact the VCP **at any time** if they:

- Have experienced or observed **inappropriate behavior**
- Have a **concern or doubt** about someone else's conduct
- Want to discuss **what is or isn't acceptable** within the sport
- Don't know where to go or **want to talk informally first**

The VCP can be contacted **directly and confidentially** via vertrouwenspersoon@lacrosse.nl. All conversations are handled with **discretion and care**.

If someone feels more comfortable contacting an external party, they can reach out to **Centrum Veilige Sport Nederland** at <https://centrumveiligesport.nl> or via their helpline.

5. Confidentiality and Privacy

The VCP handles all conversations with **strict confidentiality**. Information is **only shared** with others if:

- The individual gives **explicit consent**, or
- There is a **legal or moral obligation** to act (e.g., risk of harm to a minor or serious safety threat)

All VCPs receive appropriate training and operate within the ethical and legal standards set by Centrum Veilige Sport Nederland.

6. Appointments and Training

VCPs are appointed by the NLB and must:

- Be approachable, discreet, and trustworthy

Follow training provided by Centrum Veilige Sport Nederland
Stay informed about current issues in safe sport and reporting protocols
Operate independently from disciplinary or management bodies within NLB

A list of current VCPs and their contact details is available on the NLB website.

7. Promoting Safe Sport

The VCPs also contribute to **preventive work** by helping promote awareness of:

- Respectful behavior and clear boundaries
- Inclusion and diversity in sport
- Reporting procedures and available resources

8. Final Remarks

The presence of Vertrouwenscontactpersonen is a vital part of the NLB's mission to maintain a **safe and positive lacrosse culture**. We encourage all members of our community to make use of this support when needed, without hesitation or fear.

For any questions or more information, please contact:

vertrouwenspersoon@lacrosse.nl or voorzitter@lacrosse.nl

Versions:

30.05.2025 - Initial Policy Drafted - lworthington