



Dixie Youth Baseball® Child Protection Program



Checklist for Complying with the Safe Sport Act

In 2018, Congress enacted a new Federal law which establishes a nationwide standard “*duty to report*” suspected child abuse. The “Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Act of 2017” (“Safe Sport Act”) Public Law 115-126 applies to all DYB leagues. The new law mandates that all amateur sports organizations adopt policies to protect minor athletes in their program which address education and training, safety procedures for minor athletes, and reporting guidelines.

Below is a checklist to assist DYB leagues with complying with the new Federal law.

(1) Adopt the DYB Child Protection Plan (a League Child Abuse Management Plan) – Each league should adopt and implement the DYB Child Protection Plan or a similar comprehensive risk management plan which serves as awareness education training for all league officials and staff who agree to educate themselves on all forms of misconduct and to refrain from engaging in such misconduct and in violating the policies therein.

(2) The league’s plan should include policies to address:

- **Duty to Report Child Abuse** – All DYB local leagues whose volunteers have regular contact with a minor participant in the league program must report suspected child abuse, including sexual abuse, within 24 hours to law enforcement.
- **Limit One-On-One Interaction with Minors** – Dixie Youth Baseball and its affiliated leagues must establish procedures to limit one-on-one interactions between an amateur athlete who is a minor and an adult (who is not the minor’s legal guardian).
- **Training for Minors** – The **Safe Sport Act** requires sports organizations to provide training to minors on preventing and reporting of child abuse. DYB league organizations shall provide all parents of minor athlete’s access to the “**Abuse Avoidance Training for Minors**” or a similar document from another source to each parent and a recommendation, subject to parental consent, that each parent should review this document with their minor child.
- **Background Checks** – Leagues must use background checks to screen all managers, coaches and other authorized adult participants in the league who have repetitive access to and close contact with minor athletes.
- **Prohibit Retaliation** - Dixie Youth Baseball and its affiliated leagues must prohibit retaliation against any individual who makes a report required under the **Safe Sport Act**.

(3) Leagues may utilize the following documents located under the *Child Protection Plan* tab on the DYB website at youth.dixie.org:

- **Child Protection Plan;**
- **Abuse Reporting Guidelines;**
- **Abuse Awareness Training – Minors;**
- **Background Check Policy;**
- **League Volunteer Application**

(4) Reporting to Dixie Youth Baseball

All DYB Leagues shall report to Dixie Youth Baseball, Inc.:

- the identity of any person affiliated the league who is convicted of, or pleads guilty to, or who is charged with and pleads guilty to a lesser offense, any crime of child abuse and/or crimes of a sexual nature, and
- the identity of any person who is permanently banned from participation in league activities as a result of a claim of child abuse or as a result of a claim of sexual abuse.

If you need additional information, email dyb@dixie.org.