

Town of Acton

Abuse and Molestation Prevention Policy

The purpose of the youth sports programs in the Town of Acton is to teach fundamental skills, sportsmanship and elements of team play in a fun, safe and positive environment. To that end, we have adopted the following policies designed to reduce the likelihood of inappropriate behavior toward our program participants.

Criminal Background Checks

All volunteers shall be subject to a background check, including criminal records or appearances on the sex offender registry. Applicants shall cooperate in the background check and supply additional information on past charges or convictions upon request of the Selectmen. Any applicant may be rejected if the applicant's past history, in the reasonable judgment of the Selectmen, poses a risk for children or the program. No applicant or volunteer ever convicted of a sexual related crime is eligible for service in any position with direct relation to children.

Coaches Pledge

All volunteer coaches will sign and agree to abide by the tenets set forth in our coaches pledge, specifically in regard to this policy:

Timely communication with parents regarding practices and games.

Refraining from abusive or disrespectful behavior of any kind.

Limit One on One Contact

It is our policy that no activities shall take place involving one on one contact between a single league volunteer and a child, if such activities can be practically avoided.

Instead, a buddy system is encouraged where two adults should always be present during practices, games, carpooling, and special events.

Take Home / Pick up

Take home/pick-up of youth participants is strongly discouraged because of the difficulty in limiting one on one contact between adult and child.

Parents should provide transportation for their own children to and from scheduled events.

The committee will clearly outline the expected start and end time for all events and communicate this with all parents.

Parents should be instructed to make back-up plans in the event they can't provide transportation.

Touching

Touching is acceptable only if it is "respectful and appropriate".

Sleepovers

All sleepover activities are prohibited whether parties at parent's homes, overnight parties, or traveling to away games. As an organization, we do not allow, endorse or approve of team sleepovers. Parents can have a sleepover providing it is outside the auspices of this organization.

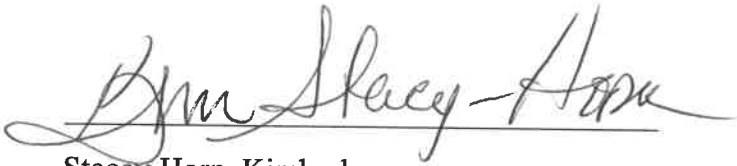
Offsite Practices or Events

Coaches are not to hold practices or other activities at a location other than provided and approved practice facilities.

Adopted: 03/24/2021 / Amended: 02/16/2022



Winchell Jr., David



Stacey-Horn, Kimberly



McGurty, Tom

Board of Selectmen