



# Little League Baseball

## Youth Child Protection Safety Act – Requirements & Compliance Guide

### Purpose

This document outlines the requirements and implementation standards for compliance with the Little League Baseball Youth Child Protection Safety Act (YCPSA). The intent is to protect all youth participants from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and misconduct, and to ensure a safe, respectful, and transparent environment across all league activities.

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### 1. Scope & Applicability

These requirements apply to: - All volunteers (managers, coaches, assistant coaches, team parents) - League officials and board members - Umpires and scorekeepers - Any individual with regular or direct contact with players

Compliance is mandatory prior to assuming any role involving youth interaction.

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### 2. Mandatory Background Checks

- Annual national criminal background checks are required for all volunteers and league officials.
  - Background checks must be conducted through a Little League-approved provider.
  - Individuals with disqualifying offenses (including crimes against minors, violent crimes, or sexual offenses) are prohibited from participation.
  - Records of background check completion must be maintained confidentially by the league.
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### 3. Abuse Awareness & Prevention Training

- All volunteers must complete Little League-approved Child Abuse Awareness Training annually.
  - Training must include:
    - Recognizing signs of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse
    - Understanding grooming behaviors
    - Appropriate boundaries between adults and minors
    - Reporting obligations and procedures
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## **4. Code of Conduct**

All adults must adhere to the Little League Code of Conduct, including but not limited to: - Maintaining professional and appropriate interactions with players at all times - Prohibiting one-on-one situations in isolated settings whenever possible - Using positive, respectful language and behavior - No physical discipline, harassment, or intimidation

Violations may result in suspension or permanent removal.

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## **5. Supervision & Interaction Guidelines**

- The "Two-Deep Leadership" principle should be followed whenever feasible.
  - One-on-one contact should be avoided; if unavoidable, interactions must be observable and interruptible.
  - Electronic communications (text, email, social media) must include parents or guardians when possible and be strictly related to team activities.
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## **6. Locker Room, Facility, & Travel Safety**

- Adult supervision must be present but respectful of player privacy.
  - No individual adult should be alone with a minor in locker rooms or restrooms.
  - Travel arrangements must be approved by the league and communicated to parents in advance.
  - Overnight travel requires written parental consent and clear supervision plans.
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## **7. Reporting Requirements**

- Any suspicion or knowledge of abuse must be reported immediately.
  - Reports should be made to:
    - Local law enforcement or child protective services (as required by law)
    - The League President or designated Safety Officer
    - Little League International via established reporting channels
  - Retaliation against individuals making good-faith reports is strictly prohibited.
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## **8. League Safety Officer Responsibilities**

The League Safety Officer shall: - Maintain compliance records - Coordinate background checks and training - Serve as the primary contact for safety concerns - Ensure reporting procedures are clearly communicated

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## 9. Enforcement & Disciplinary Action

Failure to comply with the Youth Child Protection Safety Act may result in: - Immediate suspension from league activities - Removal from volunteer or leadership roles - Notification to Little League International

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## 10. Annual Review & Acknowledgment

- This policy shall be reviewed annually by the league Board of Directors.
  - All volunteers must acknowledge, in writing, their understanding and acceptance of these requirements.
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**Commitment Statement** Little League Baseball is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and positive environment for every child. Protecting our players is a shared responsibility and a core value of our league.