

Siuslaw Baseball Association

PO Box 873, Florence, OR 97439

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Sexual Abuse and Molestation Prevention Policy

Protecting Our Youth Baseball Players

Sexual Abuse and Molestation Prevention Policy For **Siuslaw Baseball Association**

Purpose: It is the purpose and intent of Siuslaw Baseball Association (SBA) to provide a safe, secure environment for our youth baseball players.

Goal: Our goal is to protect our youth baseball players from sexual abuse, child molestation or any types of inappropriate sexual behavior by volunteers in our program and to protect our volunteers from false accusations.

Definition of Children and Youth: Anyone between the ages of zero and 17 years.

Definition of Child Sexual Abuse: The Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states “Children sexual abuse involves any sexual activity with a child where consent is not or cannot be given. This includes sexual contact that is accomplished by force or threat of force, regardless of the age of the participations, and all sexual contact between an adult and a child, regardless of whether there is deception or the child understands the sexual nature of the activity. Sexual contact between an older and a younger child also can be abusive if there is a significant disparity in age, development, or size, rendering the younger child incapable of giving informed consent. The sexually abusive acts may include sexual penetration, sexual touching, or non-contact sexual acts such as exposure or voyeurism.”

For more information, visit CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/preventingchildsexualabuse-a.pdf>.

This policy and procedure set forth will apply to all people who give supervision or have custody of children or who have opportunity to have contact with children in our baseball league activities.

This policy will address four areas that are critical for the protection of the children, umpires, volunteers and board members: selection process, protection policy, reporting procedures and responses to allegations.

1. Selection Process:

A. Umpires - any umpire that volunteers or is paid by SBA, whether or not they work directly with children.

- All umpires current or new (effective April 3, 2017): Background records check and interview by appropriate staff member. Possible Criminal Records Check**.

B. Volunteers including board members- anyone who is not paid by SBA on full-time or part-time basis, and is serving in any position involving the supervision or custody of children.

- All volunteers current or new (effective April 3, 2017): Background records check and interview by appropriate staff member. Possible Criminal Records Check**.

**Possible criminal records check for umpires/volunteers will be limited to any criminal activity involving the following: 1) a child, 2) child molestation, 3) any type of sexual offense, 4) any type of pornographic or obscene material, 5) any type of violence, and 6) suspected child abuse.

All records, forms and reports will become a part of SBA's confidential files.

2. Protection Policy:

A. Two Adults or Three Person Rule

- Two adults must be present, or nearby at all times with children during any SBA activities (games, practices, etc). Reasonable efforts will be made to assure that one adult is not left alone with one child. A husband and wife volunteering together will be typically considered as one adult for purposes of this policy.
- Three Person Rule prohibits one adult from being alone with one child. A second adult must be present, or there must be two or more children with an adult.

B. Overnight Activities

- All umpires/volunteers will be required to comply with all of the Sexual Abuse and Molestation Prevention Policies during any overnight SBA activity.

C. Within Town Activities

- All umpires/volunteers will be required to comply with all of the Sexual Abuse and Molestation Prevention Policies during any within town activity.

D. Out-of-Town Activities

- All participants should have written parental consent and a medical release form, which is to be provided by the child's parent. All umpires and volunteers shall be required to comply with all of SBA's policies including, but not limited to, those outlined in Sexual Abuse and Molestation Prevention Policy during SBA sponsored out-of-town activities.

3. Reporting Procedures

- Observed or reported child sexual abuse or child molestation should be reported immediately to a SBA board member and Child Protective Services at 541-349-4444 or 866-300-2782 during the hours of 8:00am - 5:00pm Monday through Friday (Florence Police Department-911 after hours). Reporting abuse can precipitate severe consequences to a family, so it should never be done casually or thoughtlessly, and certainly not for malicious purposes. At the same time, failing to report abuse can have severe consequences to the child at risk.

4. Responses to Allegations

- All allegations will be taken seriously and a SBA board member will take appropriate action in accordance with the laws of the State of Oregon and insurance policy requirements based upon advice of legal counsel.
- SBA will document in writing with date and signature of all efforts in the handling of any incident.
- SBA will not deny, minimize, or blame any individual involved in allegations. SBA will minister to all involved, as well as cooperate with authorities.

This policy must be read and understood by each and every SBA board member, umpire and volunteer. A letter signed by each individual will be kept on file with the SBA board Secretary.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 3, 2017

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**Sexual Abuse and Molestation Policy
Acknowledgement and Acceptance Form**

After you have read the Sexual Abuse and Molestation Prevention Policy, complete this page and return to the SBA Secretary.

Print your name clearly

First and Last Name

Date of Birth

I have read, understand and hereby agree to abide by the terms and conditions as provided in the Siuslaw Baseball Association (SBA) Sexual Abuse and Molestation Policy. I understand that any violation of the aforesaid terms and conditions may result in my being removed from a volunteer position including membership of the board and umpires. I further agree to report any abuse, lack of compliance or suspicious behavior by others to a SBA board member. Any violation of this policy, or any inappropriate behavior that is not included in the policy, but has the effect of causing harm to another or his/her child will be reported immediately.

Signature

Date

SBA Affiliation: check all that apply

- ☐ Board Member
- ☐ Umpire
- ☐ Team Mom
- ☐ Coach
- ☐ Volunteer

References

Information was gathered from following websites:

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/preventingchildsexualabuse-a.pdf>

<http://www.kernanbaptist.org/forms/sam.pdf>

<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/CHILDREN/CHILD-ABUSE/Pages/index.aspx>