THE SAFE SPORT ACT OF 2017

At a time when child abuse has become all too common in the sports world, all youth sports organizations must take action to protect vulnerable youth athletes.

In reaction to recent abuse scandals in youth sports, the United States government has established the Safe Sport Act of 2017 that mandates new safety requirements that aim to protect youth athletes through abuse prevention training and mandated reporting.

WHAT ORGANIZATIONS ARE AFFECTED?

All youth sports organizations are affected by the Act in one way or another.

Organizations that are affiliated with a national governing body (NGB) should continue to follow their NGBs established Safe Sport directives in order to stay in compliance.

All other youth organizations, no matter the size or where they compete, are required to follow the protocols established by the Safe Sport Act.

WHAT HAPPENS TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT DON'T FOLLOW THE NEW REQUIREMENTS?

Individuals and organizations found not to be in compliance with the act could receive civil or criminal charges.

WHAT DOES THE SAFE SPORT ACT REQUIRE OF ORGANIZATIONS?

The Act requires that all adults who interact with youth athletes must complete abuse awareness training and are required to report suspicions of abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies within 24 hours.

Organizations must also provide a "mechanism for communication" for all participants and volunteers where they can confidentially report incidents of abuse, or suspicion of abuse.

HOW DO WE MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE?

We partner with SportsEngine to get access to abuse prevention training and tracking resources. S

ABUSE PREVENTION COURSE

SportsEngine has partnered with Abuse Prevention Systems (APS) to offer comprehensive sexual abuse awareness training for youth sports organizations that fulfill Safe Sport Act requirements.

- Facts and Misconceptions
- Abuser Characteristics
- The Grooming Process
- Methods to Reduce Risk
- Peer to Peer Pressure
- If a Child Reports Abuse
- Impact on Children
- Responsibility to Report