



Alaska Youth Soccer Association Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017



Fact Sheet

On February 14th, 2018, the President signed the **Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017** which is aimed at protecting amateur athletes* from sexual abuse.

The Law has a three-pronged approach:

1. Any adult interacting with amateur athletes in the program has a duty to report abuse and or suspected abuse within a 24-hour period. EVERY adult is a mandatory reporter.
2. The statute of limitations is extended for up to 10 years after a victim realizes he or she was abused.
3. Limits an athlete under the age of 18 from being alone with an adult who is not their parent.

*What is an amateur athlete? Any child/minor under the age of 18. Legislation to download ([click here](#)).

What are the requirements for NGB's and NGB-Affiliated?

Reporting: A mechanism that allows a complaint to be easily reported for a reasonable suspicion of Sexual or Physical abuse/neglect, within a 24-hour period of awareness. Federal regulations state that reports should be made to a) local law enforcement and b) local/state child protective services c) US Soccer, and d) the US Center for SafeSport. EVERYONE is a MANDATORY REPORTER.

Mechanism for Reporting: Everyone listed below MUST be contacted when physical or sexual abuse is suspected

1. Local Law Enforcement Numbers; [Alaska State Troopers](#)
2. Local Child Protective Services Number (1-800-478-4444)
3. *State of Alaska Office of Children's Services (OCF)*; [Mandatory Reporting Guidelines](#)
4. Club Risk Manager/ Club Official/ Representative (every club should have a point person for reporting)
5. *Alaska Youth Soccer (AYSA) Representative*; (AYSA) Main Office (907-887-6550, alaskayouthsoccer@gmail.com)
6. National Governing Body (NGB)
US Soccer Integrity Hotline Number: (312) 528 - 7004
US Soccer: <https://www.ussoccer.com/integrity-hotline>
US Center for SafeSport: <https://www.safesport.org/report-a-concern>

Mechanism for Reporting (cont.): forms of misconduct such as emotional abuse, bullying, hazing, or harassment.

1. Review the Alaska Youth Soccer (AYSA) Code of Conduct Policy and report accordingly.
2. Reports should be made to the Alaska Youth Soccer (AYSA) Office (907-887-6550; alaskayouthsoccer@gmail.com)

Reasonable Procedures: Policies and procedures aimed at PREVENTING one-on-one interactions between an amateur athlete who is a minor and an adult are detailed in the Alaska Youth Soccer Code of Conduct Policy.

An individual who is required, but fails, to report suspected child sexual abuse is subject to criminal penalties including fines and up to one (1) year in jail.

What are the Requirements Affiliated Members?

Prevention Training: Alaska Youth Soccer (AYSA) [Adult Verification Policy](#) provides the required background check and consistent up to date training to adult members who are in contact with amateur athletes who are minors.

Each adult over the age of 18 who may have the opportunity to have direct interaction or unmonitored access with amateur athletes as a representative of Alaska Youth Soccer Association (AYSA) and all covered Alaska Youth Soccer Association (AYSA) Member Organizations such as clubs, leagues and associations are required to an annual cleared background check and certification of Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse or SafeSport certificate.

NOTE: Before regular contact with an amateur athlete begins the adult must clear the background check and within the first **35 days** of taking on the role giving them access to youth participants must complete the initial Protecting Young Victims training. A refresher course is required on an annual basis effective the calendar year following the completion of the initial training.

US Soccer and US Youth Soccer Policies

Alaska Youth Soccer will ensure AYSA Policies and Procedures will follow the **SafeSport Act U.S.C. 220530, U.S. Soccer Bylaw 212, and Policy 212-3: Athlete and Participant Safety Policy and US Youth Soccer Code of Conduct.**