

ALASKA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

POLICY & PROCEDURE

POLICY TOPIC: Adult Verification

POLICY NO: AYS082217-A

POLICY: Alaska Youth Soccer requires all individuals over eighteen years of age to complete the Three Adult Verification Steps prior to interaction with athletes; Annual Background Check, SafeSport Trained Course, and review of the AYSA Code of Conduct.

PURPOSE: The policy is designed to ensure that all individuals over eighteen years of age who at any time could be expected, in the performance of his/her duties, to be entrusted with the supervision, guidance, interaction, and care of an athlete on behalf of Alaska Youth Soccer have successfully registered and passed an **Annual Background Check**, completed the **SafeSport Trained Course**, continue to take the **refresher courses** on an annual basis effective the calendar year following the completion of the initial training, and reviewed the **AYSA Code of Conduct** within the first 35 days of taking on the role giving them access to youth participants. The policy will cover all Affiliate Member coaching staff, directors, administrators, employees, BOD Members, volunteer coaches, team managers, trainers, chaperones, club volunteers, and certified referees. The same policy will be used for all AYSA employees, contract staff, contract coaches, and BOD Members.

PROCEDURE: Three Adult Verification Steps

STEP ONE: Annual Background Check

The Adult Background checks will be required yearly through AYSA prior to the adult actively participating in the programs of the Association or the Affiliate Member Associations and before interaction with athletes.

Individuals over eighteen years of age will remain in "Pending Status" and will not be approved to actively participate in the activities or programs until the individual has registered and submitted a background check application. Only upon notification that their risk status is "Approved"; then they may start participation in their role.

Alaska Youth Soccer and Affiliate Member club and /or association BOD Members, Officer, or subordinate Officer must pass an annual background check prior to taking such office as established by the Alaska Youth Soccer BOD.

If a BOD Members, Officer, or subordinate Officer takes office prior to completion of his or her background check, that individual shall be removed from the board immediately. When notification that their risk status is "Approved"; only then may they be permitted to remain on the BOD. If a BOD Members, Officer, or subordinate Officer fails to satisfy the minimum requirements of the background check and their risk status is "Not Approved"; they shall be removed from the board immediately and not permitted to remain on the BOD.

Background check applications will be issued through the approved state program. Currently, Alaska Youth Soccer is utilizing Stack Sports. Each club and /or association must establish and maintain an account with Stack Sports Corporation. All individuals over eighteen years of age must be registered in the Stack Sports system yearly. The Adult Background check will be processed annually, and AYSA will invoice the Affiliate Member club and /or association the cost of the background check of \$8 per individual.

STEP TWO: SafeSport Trained Course Training

The SafeSport Trained Course; Sexual Abuse Awareness Training is key in equipping all individuals over eighteen years of age actively participating in the programs of the Association or the Affiliate Member Associations to receive the required training the initial Protecting Young Victims training and a refresher course on an annual basis effective the calendar year following the completion of the initial training prior to interaction with athletes and sports activities.

Alaska Youth Soccer has zero tolerance for abuse; the policy and guidelines are intended to create a safe and nurturing environment in which athletes may receive the benefits unique to sports participation, preparation, and competition.

The training will provide; Mandatory Reporting, Sexual Misconduct Awareness Education, Emotional and Physical Misconduct. Alaska Youth Soccer will provide the available and necessary SafeSport Trained Course links to the Affiliate Member club and /or association on an annual basis at no cost to the club and /or association.

STEP THREE: AYSA Code of Conduct

The AYSA Code of Conduct will be reviewed by all Affiliate Member coaching staff, administrators, employees, BOD Members, volunteer coaches, managers, trainers, chaperones, club volunteers, and certified referees. AYSA employees, contract staff, contract coaches, and BOD Members prior to the adult actively participating in the programs of the Association or the Affiliate Member Associations and before interaction with athletes. Managing risk ranges from making sure all players wear shin guards to providing background checks for all our volunteers, coaches, and staff. Our Risk Management Program provides guidelines for creating the safest possible environment for all AYSA players.

* **NEW -Adult Verification for AYSA Sanctioned Events;** Affiliate Member Associations please ensure all adults INCLUDING THOSE not registered with an Alaska Affiliated Club/Association have submitted a background check application, reviewed the AYSA Code of Conduct, and completed the SafeSport Trained Course. Out of state staff coaches and Referees who have a current approved background check certificate, and SafeSport Trained certificate will be required to submit the documents to the AYSA Office for approval prior to conducting the event in Alaska.