

SARATOGA SPRINGS LITTLE LEAGUE

ABUSE AWARENESS, PREVENTION AND REPORTING POLICY

Saratoga Springs Little League adopts the following policy (“Policy”) regarding Abuse Awareness, Prevention and Reporting Policy in compliance with the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and SafeSport Authorization Act of 2017 (“SafeSport Act”). In compliance with the SafeSport Act, it is the Policy of the Saratoga Springs Little League (“SSLL” or the “League”) that:

1. All Adult Members of the League (defined to include managers, coaches, assistant coaches, Board members and other adult volunteers who are authorized by the League to provide regular service to the League and have regular contact with players) are covered by this Policy.

2. Under the SafeSport Act, Adult Members are now mandated reporters and could face criminal charges if they do not report, as set forth in this Policy, any witnessed act or suspected act of child abuse, which may include sexual misconduct and/or abuse, as well as emotional and physical misconduct including bullying, hazing, harassment, and/or grooming, within 24 hours of witnessing such occurrence.

3. All Adult Members are required to participate in training in order to understand the definitions of the above behaviors, and their reporting obligations, as well as League policies regarding appropriate and prohibited one-on-one interactions, electronic communications and travel requirements and restrictions.

TRAINING REQUIREMENT

1. In order for the Adult Members to understand the definitions of abuse and neglect, understand the above behaviors, and to be aware of their duties, responsibilities and obligations under USA Baseball policies regarding interactions with players, all Adult Members are required to complete the free “Abuse Awareness for Adults” course from USA Baseball (the “Course”) and to obtain a Certificate of Completion from the Course. The Course can be accessed once an account has been created at the address below.

<https://usabdevelops.com/memberships/131/login>

2. All Adult Members of the League are required to submit their Certificate of Completion prior to being authorized as a manager or coach of any team, or to be involved in any manner whatsoever with any player in the League immediately before or immediately after, as well as during all League activities including games and practices, except with respect to their own child.

REPORTING OBLIGATIONS AND PROCEDURE

1. Any Adult Member of the League who learns of facts that give reason to suspect that a child has suffered an incident of child abuse (“the physical or mental injury, sexual abuse or exploitation, or negligent treatment of a child”) shall make and submit a report to the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) by calling the Child Abuse Hotline Number at **(800) 342-3720** at any time. More information on how to report can be found here: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/cps/>. **If a child is in immediate danger, call 911.**

2. In addition to reporting to OCFS, you are also expected to report any such incident to the League President or Safety Officer such that appropriate action may be taken by the League; provided that if such individual is a suspected wrongdoer, the report shall not be submitted to the alleged wrongdoer.

3. Any retaliation taken by any Adult Member against any individual who files a good faith report under this Policy is prohibited and may result in the immediate termination of such Adult Member from the League, which action shall not limit the rights of any other person.

4. This Policy does not replace, alter or amend any other reporting or other policy of the League including, without limitation, the zero tolerance policy or any registration requirements or the performing of background checks.