



# REGION ROUNDTABLE

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# CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM UPDATES

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# Child Protection Program Updates

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- The Child Protection Program has been amended for 2024 to include the Child Protection Policy
  - Easier to understand
  - All information in one location
  - Clearly defines the leagues obligations
- JDP Background check enhancements
  - National Criminal File, plus Developed Names
  - Social Security Number Search
  - 125 Free checks for each league
  - \$1.50 per search above 125 searches



# JDP

- Little League Preferred Background Check provider
- 125 Free Searches – resets each October 1
- Integration with Sports Connect
  - [LittleLeague.org/JDPSC](https://LittleLeague.org/JDPSC)
- Fulfills the minimum requirements
  - Nationwide Criminal Search
  - National Sex Offender Registry
  - Review of U.S. Center for SafeSport Centralized Disciplinary Database
  - Review of Little League Ineligible/Suspended List
- Support
  - [ClientServices@JDP.com](mailto:ClientServices@JDP.com) • Phone 855-940-3232



# League Requirements

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1. COMPLETE BACKGROUND CHECKS
2. MANDATORY TRAINING & CONTINUING EDUCATION
3. MANDATORY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
4. NON-RETALIATION FOR REPORTING
5. PROHIBIT ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTION



# 1. Complete Background Checks

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- Any Person who has regular access to the league and/or has access to minors
- Utilize the Little League Volunteer Application
  - JDP Quick App
  - Sports Connect
  - [LittleLeague.org/BackgroundChecks](https://LittleLeague.org/BackgroundChecks)
- Three (3) Reference Checks
- Offenses that Prohibit Participation
  - Pending charge, conviction, guilty plea, no contest pleas, admission to any crime involving a minor



# 2. Mandatory Training & Continuing Education

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## TRAINING

- Annually require all volunteers to complete Abuse Awareness Training before assuming any duties
  - Keeps information fresh in volunteer's mind
  - Benefits the league
  - Completed on or after October 1
- USA Baseball Abuse Awareness Training for Adults ([USABase.org](https://www.usabase.org)) or other comparable training per SafeSport Act
  - "regarding and preventing child abuse"
  - Leagues have discretion to choose how training conducted
- Each league is responsible to verify that each volunteer has completed the training



# Recommended Continuing Education Opportunities for Leagues

## Remind.

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- Meet with volunteers
- Make the league's position clear
- Stress the role of adults in the league
- Advise adults of training opportunities for minors

## ASAP.

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- Participate in Little League's A Safety Awareness Program (ASAP)
- Reduction in accident insurance cost (15%)

## Resources.

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- [SafeSport.org](https://www.safesport.org)
- [SafetoCompete.org](https://www.safetocompete.org)
- [USABaseball.com](https://www.usabaseball.com)
- [MissingKids.org](https://www.missingkids.org)





# 3. Mandatory Reporting Requirements

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- Allegation of Child Abuse Against a Volunteer in a League
  - Report within 24 hours to proper authority
  - Each State may have different procedures
    - [LittleLeague.org/StateLaws](https://www.littleleague.org/state-laws)
  - Report to League President, District Administrator, and Little League International
  - League does not conduct own investigation
- Suspension/Termination
  - Individual must be suspended while charges pending or investigation
  - Individual must be terminated from ever volunteering if substantiated
- Communications from the League
  - [LittleLeague.org/CrisisCommunications](https://www.littleleague.org/crisis-communications)



# 4. Non-Retaliation for Reporting

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- Leagues may not retaliate against any individual who makes a good faith report of suspected abuse
- Leagues should not tolerate any member retaliating against another member
- Leagues should encourage all individuals to be vigilant and observant
- Protection begins at the local league level
- Every league must place the protection and well being of players above all else
- Many states provide immunity to those who report suspected child abuse in good faith
  - [LittleLeague.org/StateLaws](https://www.littleleague.org/StateLaws)



# 5. Prohibit One-On-One Interactions

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Leagues must adopt a one-on-one policy relating to interactions between a player and any adult volunteer during the league's programs and activities

- At a minimum the policy should include:
  - Volunteers are prohibited from being alone with a minor player during local league programs and events
  - All volunteer actions must be observable and interpretable by another adult
  - Volunteers are discouraged from interacting one-on-one with a player outside local league programs
  - Physical contact should be very limited (such as high fives; fist bumps).
- Resources
  - [USCenterforSafesport.org](https://www.uscenterforsafesport.org)

