

BACKGROUND SCREENING

Everyone authorized to interact with minor or amateur athletes requires a current (within 12 months) background check to include:

- Social Security Number Validation
- National Criminal Database Check
- National Sex Offender Registry Check
- County of Residence Search

Information or other background checks completed within the last 12 months will be considered enough if an individual has recently undergone this level scrutiny and there is a method to verify a negative result. It requires someone in authority to take legal responsibility by signing off that this level of background check and the appropriate and approved education and training has been completed.

The responsible party of each team will report the identities of everyone associated with that team that has close and consistent contact with minor players. Falsification, including leaving someone off the list, could lead to serious legal consequences.

For those who have not undergone a background check in the last 12 months, Midwest Ohio Baseball will be using Protect Youth Sports to conduct our background checks. They are also the provider for League Lineup, American Legion Baseball and ASA/USA Softball among other organizations.

By Wednesday February 20th at 9 pm you must have all your coaches and other adults with close and consistent contact with the players listed on the website.

On Friday February 22 there will be a link on the Midwest Ohio Baseball website for you and all your coaches etc. to sign up for the background check and the education and training.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Each covered individual must complete the appropriate training course. The course "Abuse Awareness Course for Adults" must be completed. The educational requirements are included in the Background screening and all information is available during the screening process.

MANDATORY REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Senate Bill 534 provides for potential criminal charges for anyone who learns or has reason to suspect that a child suffered an incident of child abuse, including sexual abuse. A report must be filed with a law enforcement agency with authority to take emergency action to protect the child. You must report within 24 hours upon learning of the potential abuse.

- A report must be made within 24 hours, REGARDLESS OF HOW LONG AGO THE BEHAVIOR OCCURRED. It must still be reported even if it was in the past.

Be prepared with as much information as possible. However, even if you do not have all this information, you must still report what you do know to authorities. Information that would be very helpful:

- Your name and contact info.
- The victims' name, parents name, and parents contact information.
- What you were told or observed about the abuse.
- The offenders name and contact information.
- Whether the victim is or will be around the offender soon.

ORGANIZATION/PROGRAM AND TEAM COMPLIANCE

All Athletic teams, affiliated or independent, must follow the Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act and must have compliance documents outlining the requirements of this law. There can be no exceptions. If desired, Midwest Ohio Baseball Teams may use this document to meet the criteria. In

accordance with this Act, Midwest Ohio Baseball, LLC. must report anyone that it is believed becomes an independent team at least in part to avoid compliance with this law.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

Any alleged abuse reported to the team, organization or league will be taken seriously and proper steps taken in accordance with this law. We must adhere to this law in all aspects. We are concerned with Due Process of those potentially accused but all claims will be taken seriously, and the law will be followed.

COURSE OF ACTION

1. Any person, or team refusing to comply with the requirements under Senate Bill 534 cannot be permitted to participate with the Midwest Ohio Baseball League in any capacity. This would include refusal to comply with the background checks or educational components of the bill. Additionally, anyone refusing to comply will be reported to the proper authorities. We are given no options except complete and total compliance with this law.
2. Any individual with a record of conviction, a plea of guilty or no contest to sexual misconduct will not be permitted to coach or be involved with any team.
3. Any individual with a record of conviction, a plea of guilty or no contest for a crime of violence will not be permitted to coach or be involved with any team.
4. Any individual with multiple DUI convictions, a plea of guilty or no contest will not be permitted to drive any unrelated team members to or from any team activity.
5. Any individual with claims of sexual or physical abuse filed against them while a covered individual shall be immediately suspended until an investigation shows that the complaint is frivolous, unsubstantiated or false. This would include any team members or parents who are accused of bullying etc. Such parents or players will be suspended from attending any team activities until an investigation has been completed. These complaints will be handled quickly in order to getting deserving people back with their team.
6. If anyone is accused of emotional or mental abuse, those allegations, where appropriate, will be presented to law enforcement. In the event Law enforcement determines the matter to be actionable, the Midwest Ohio Baseball League Board of Directors will determine what disciplinary action is appropriate. This will be done on a case by case basis.
7. In accordance with "Incident Reporting Compliance", any claim of violation of Senate Bill 534 requires reporting to the legal authorities within 24 hours of learning of the incident. It is also to be reported to the Midwest Ohio Baseball LLC. Reporting may be done by emailing Midwest Ohio Baseball. There will be a specific email link on the website to report incidents.