

Some Steps to Protect Your Players

1. Background check your coaches and volunteers; first line of defense.
2. Use web to identify neighborhood sex offenders. These people are rarely rehabilitated in prison; must be vigilant.
3. Inspect your ball park for play areas where children are out of sight.
4. Routinely have parents/volunteers inspect bathrooms multiple times during games/practices.
5. Have parents on smoke breaks watch for undesirables in parking lots.
6. No closed practices. Encourage parents to watch practices; no babysitting.
7. Watch for inappropriate touching; hugging, rubbing, etc.
8. Be conscious when children are not comfortable (nervousness, tenseness, creeping eyes)
9. Be aware of the signs of an abused child.
- 10. Report/investigate all cases of unusual behavior.**

This is just a sample list. Feel free to add your own. Share them with the group.

The athletic program is responsible for educating not only their coaches and athletes, but their parents.