



# Little League Youth Safety

Presented by:  
FOSER (Friends of the Southeast Region)  
Little League Baseball, Inc.  
Southeast Region Little League



The Little League Child Protection Program seeks to educate children and volunteers in ways to prevent child abusers from becoming involved in the local league, and to improve communications within leagues regarding child safety. This can better protect the players and provide resources for volunteers to identify and address child safety concerns. Little League regulations say: “No local league shall permit any person to participate in any manner, whose background check reveals a conviction, guilty plea, no contest plea, or admission to any crime involving or against a minor or minors.”

Beyond this, the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress enacted a Federal Law entitled Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017. This law went into effective on February 14, 2018 and is commonly known as “Safe Sport”, creating legal obligations for adult volunteers to report to local authorities when an alleged incidence of child abuse is identified. The goal of Safe Sport is to protect children from abusive situations by engaging more people in the reporting and education processes

FOSER has organized a workshop to assist local leagues in implementing procedures to make their programs safer for all everyone, and to improve awareness of key Federal and State requirements for volunteers under the Safe Sport Act. Key points that will be covered include:

- Understanding the Safe Sport law and how it pertains to your league and volunteers
- Understanding the various types of Child Abuse
- Understanding what a Mandated Reporter is and how to report
- Learning how to educate your parents and volunteers on Child Abuse prevention
- Reviewing the components of Little League’s Child Protection Program and how Safe Sport integrates with the program
- Reviewing the procedures for proper Background Checks and Volunteer appointments

Questions we will be reviewing are:

- How is Safe Sport Governed and what are the requirements in our State?
- Who are National Governing Bodies?
- What types of abuse does Safe Sport cover?
- What must be reported?
- Who Do We Report To?
- What Information is included in a Report?
- How Do We Educate Our Parents and Volunteers?
- How Do We Teach Our Children Safe Avenues to Articulate their Concerns?

Additionally we will provide a flash drive with the workshop presentations and exhibits, as well as specific resource Information and materials relevant to requirements for your State designed to allow you to distribute this information to others in your league after the workshop.