

FASA ABUSE/MOLESTATION POLICY FASA will not tolerate the abuse/molestation of any minor participant at a FASA sanctioned activity. FASA sanctions athletic events in which it provides rules for play and a tournament structure that leads to end of season tournament opportunities for teams that register to participate in FASA sanctioned activities that are overseen by FASA directors.

We encourage parents (*and guardians*) who determine the team for a youth team participant, the adult team participants (*such as team coaches or team sponsors*) of a team, the community organizations who are involved in the organization, creation or management of such teams to thoroughly investigate and screen the background and character of the individuals who coach, manage, volunteer or otherwise come into contact with such teams and their minor participants and to vigilantly supervise any and all activities of any youth team with which they are associated. Background checks are available, among other places, on-line for a small fee and FASA encourages those actually responsible for team activities and the parents (*guardians*) of youth athletic team members to utilize such tools to limit the exposure of youth athletes to those who might pose a danger.

Because FASA is not an organizer, manager or creator of teams, it does not in any way take responsibility for the organization, creation, management or any other activity of the teams (*customers*) that register to play in FASA sanctioned leagues and/or tournaments, except to provide the opportunity to play FASA sanctioned events under FASA rules as overseen by a FASA director.

Teams that participate in FASA sanctioned events are customers of FASA and no more. When a team chooses to participate in a FASA activity, the team, its players, coaches, volunteers, organizers, and its parents and fans must abide by FASA rules found in the FASA Rule Book, with respect to FASA activities. FASA takes no responsibility for any action in any non-FASA sanctioned event activities of any team.

FASA is not responsible for checking the background of each of its customers including all volunteers of the teams that play in FASA sanctioned Events or FASA Leagues. Background Checks are required to participate in FASA events. Those convicted or charged with the following offenses are excluded from participating in FASA in any capacity:

Per the Safe Sport guidelines this is the list that will disqualify you from being a coach or volunteer around youth:

A person may be disqualified and prohibited from serving as a member, employee, director, volunteer, coach, judge, trainer or manager of minors if the person has:

- Been found guilty entering a plea of guilty, or a plea of nolo contendere (no contest), regardless of adjudication for the following criminal offenses:
 - All sex offenses, murder, or homicide regardless of time limit
 - Felony violence and felony drug offenses.
 - Any misdemeanor violence offenses.
 - Any multiple misdemeanor drug and alcohol offenses.
 - Any other crimes (not listed) against children or related animal abuse.
- Being adjudged liable for civil penalties or damages involving sexual or physical abuse of minors or adults.
- Being subject to any court order involving any sexual abuse or physical abuse of a minor or adult, including but not limited to domestic order or protection.
- Had their parental rights terminated.

- A history with another organization (volunteer, employment, etc.) of complaints of child sexual abuse or other sexual misconduct, or physical abuse of minors or adults.
- Resigned, or been terminated or been asked to resign from a position, whether paid or unpaid, due to complaint(s) of sexual or physical abuse.
- Has a history of other behavior that indicates they may be a danger to children in FASA or participating in FASA Events or programs.
- Has been declared a sex offender in any applicable federal or state jurisdiction.
- Is listed on any federal or state sexual offender list or registry.
- Has been previously suspended or banned through the US Center for Safe Sport.

Thus if you are aware of someone who has been charged with or convicted of a violent felony or a sex crime with a minor and that someone is may be in any way involved in a FASA sanctioned activity, you should immediately inform your area or state FASA director and upon being provided with proof of such charges or conviction, that individual will be automatically suspended from all FASA sanctioned activities. For example, if you do a background check on a coach before joining a team and find evidence that he has been charged with having sex with a minor, you should report this to your area or state FASA director, even though you have decided to play for another team. Even more important if you are aware of any one who has committed a violent felony or has had sex with a minor that has not been charged, you are obligated to report those crimes to the proper authorities and you should do so immediately.