

# Abuse Awareness for Adults

## Key Takeaways for Umpires, Assistant Coaches, Team Parents, Scorekeepers, and Field Maintenance Volunteers

### Roadrunner Little League (RRL) Spring 2024

**Note:** Managers, Board Members, and other Volunteers with frequent child and/or parent interactions are required to complete the full course, completion certificates must be uploaded at [rrllsafety.org](http://rrllsafety.org).

#### Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to provide you with the information needed to create a positive and safe environment for all athletes, coaches, parents, umpires, and spectators. By being informed about the different types of misconduct and warning signs of abuse, knowing when and how to report incidents, and being aware of policies that are in place, we can work to make RRL safe for all constituents of the game.

#### Mandatory Reporting:

- Report suspicion or disclosure of abuse to authorities (RRL Board Member or Albuquerque Police Department) is mandatory within 24 hours of acknowledgement.
- No matter if you are sure whether or not the allegation is true, you must always make the report so that precautionary measures can be taken to protect the victim and keep them safe.
- Provide authorities with as much information as you can.

#### Emotional and Physical Misconduct:

- Recognizing and reporting misbehavior to the authorities is the most important way to stop the misconduct from continuing to happen.
- Examples of misconduct include:
  - Bullying
  - Cyberbullying
  - Hazing
  - Harassment
  - Emotional Misconduct
  - Physical Misconduct
- Remember, there are many negatives to these forms of emotional and physical mistreatment, including, but not limited to:
  - Anxiety
  - Depression
  - Lack of self esteem
  - Withdrawal
- Every effort must be taken to prevent misconduct from occurring, but should it occur, the misconduct **MUST** be reported to authorities.

**Sexual Misconduct:**

- Consent is the clear knowing and voluntary agreement to engage in a sexual activity. Consent is active, not passive, and silence cannot be inferred as consent. An individual must be of legal age to give consent.
- Coaches and staff should institute a zero-tolerance policy for any form of sexual misconduct or child sexual abuse behavior between players, coaches, parents and other administrators. If an individual becomes suspicious or aware of sexual misconduct or abuse they must report it to authorities within a 24-hour timeframe.
- Groomers tend to give children gifts. Parents and guardians should be aware of who gave their children gifts should they receive them.
- Many victims do not disclose abuse or have difficulty doing so. If you suspect sexual misconduct, report it to authorities so that measures can be put in place to protect the victim.

**Policies:**

- Athletes should never meet one-on-one with a coach or an athletic trainer in a private setting.
- The athletic training must be conducted in open locations and must never be done with only a minor athlete and staff member.
- Electronic communication between staff and minor athlete must be professional in nature.
- Staff must communicate the status of a locker room or changing room to their team in advanced of practice or competitions and should monitor the changing area while in use.
- Staff should not drive alone with an unrelated minor athlete unless agreed by written signature of parent/legal guardian.
- Staff should never share rooms with minor athletes unless parent/legal guardian or personal care assistant of minor athlete, and no meeting should be held in hotel rooms.

**Elizabeth Lill**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ understand the key takeaways above and agree to promptly report abuse suspicion to authorities (RRL Board Member or Albuquerque Police Department).



2/28/24

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Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date