

**RULE 015. IYSA RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY - Effective 5/9/98**

The Illinois Youth Soccer Association (IYSA) has adopted the following policies as an adjunct to parent/guardian supervision:

1. The IYSA has adopted the U.S. Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) Kid Safe Program which is designed to create a safe environment for all players associated with IYSA;
2. The IYSA has adopted the stringent standards espoused by the USYSA Kid Safe Program for use by all members (leagues/clubs) of the association and is committed to providing all support necessary for those members to implement the USYSA Kid Safe Program at all levels of the association;
3. The IYSA supports and adopts procedures for the safety and security for players in the direct care of its programs, as well as strongly suggests the implementation of the procedures for all players outside the presence of parents and/or guardians.

**Statement of Position**

In order to implement the policies identified above, commonly known as the IYSA Kid Safe Program, the IYSA has adopted the following positions:

1. The IYSA shall exclude from all of its programs any adult person with a documented history of molestation, sexual abuse, exploitation, physical abuse or any other crime against a minor. Other crimes against minors include, but are not limited to, neglect, harassment, child abandonment, violation of a restraining order and providing or selling alcohol or unlawful drugs to a minor.
2. The policies enumerated above, including exclusion from programs, shall apply to the following:
  - a. Coaches, including assistant coaches;
  - b. Trainers, evaluators, chaperones;
  - c. Board of Directors or managers of all clubs, leagues, and organizations affiliated with the IYSA, if they have direct contact with the players;
  - d. All employees of IYSA;
  - e. Individual contractors who enter contracts with the IYSA who have direct contact with minors;
  - f. Referees, if such persons have direct contact with minors (including players or youth referees) outside the presence of such persons- parents, other than the routine officiating of games.
3. The IYSA shall adopt special rules of conduct, which will apply to all adults who have direct contact, and supervision of minors.

**Statements of Requirements for the IYSA Disclosure Form**

In order to comply with the IYSA Kid Safe Program, the IYSA shall require all persons described in Item 2 above to submit a Disclosure Statement in writing pursuant to procedures adopted by the IYSA. Further, all such persons shall agree to be subject to a background check designed to disclose activities, which may result in exclusion from the IYSA programs.

The IYSA has adopted the Disclosure Statement, which has been recommended by the United States Youth Soccer Association. All adults listed in the Statement of Position, 2 (a-f) shall complete the Disclosure Statement in writing and shall sign such statement. Among other information, each such adult must supply their social security number (or registration numbers for non-United States citizens) and all valid drivers license numbers. If the required Disclosure Statements are incomplete, unsigned or are not submitted as required by any such person who is required to submit the Statement, the IYSA reserves the right to exclude that person from all programs.

The IYSA will appoint a Risk Management Coordinator (RMC) or Assistant Risk Management Coordinator (ARMC). The Assistant will not be involved in any examination of documents or decisions, unless the Coordinator is not able to perform the functions designated. The State President will make the decision to have the Assistant involved in the process. The RMC is to apply the standards contained in this document impartially and fairly along the strict guidelines included herein.

The IYSA will be responsible for providing the IYSA Disclosure Statements to all leagues, who will be responsible for distributing the Statements to all affected clubs/persons. Each league shall in turn designate a Risk Management Coordinator for that league to supervise the implementation of this policy at the club/person level. Each club (regardless of size) shall in turn designate its own RMC for that club to whom the completely executed and signed Disclosure Statement shall be returned in a sealed envelope. It shall be the responsibility of the club to review the disclosure statements and to certify to the league that all affected persons involved in that club are fit to participate in all of the programs according to the stringent standards adopted by IYSA Kid Safe Program. Each league shall in turn certify to the IYSA that each of its clubs has strictly adhered to these requirements. In order to preserve confidentiality, the IYSA and the League's Risk Management Coordinator and the Alternate Risk Management Coordinator will be the only other persons who will have access to the Disclosure Statements and all background checks. Notwithstanding the prior statement, the RMC or the ARMC in the case of absence of the RMC may disclose the Disclosure Statement of the data from the background check if: (i) the person submitting the data authorizes disclosure; or (ii) the person submitting the data challenges the decision by the RMC or alternate to exclude such person from IYSA activities, in which instance the decision is to be appealed to the State Appeals Committee. (The appeals process is contained further in this document.) The confidential information will be released to the Chairperson of the Committee, who is authorized to release it to the members of the committee.

In order to secure a complete list of all persons required to submit such Disclosure Statements, each league, club or organization associated with IYSA shall compile appropriate lists along with other appropriate transmittal documents. Each such league, club or organization is responsible to keep all such current lists and to submit a list when requested by the IYSA Risk Management Coordinator.

All Disclosure Statements received by the RMC shall be deemed to have continuing validity unless there has been within the preceding year a conviction of a violent crime or a crime against a person. See IYSA Employee/Volunteer Disclosure, questions 5 and 6. In the event of such conviction, a new Disclosure Statement shall be submitted in accordance with procedures adopted by IYSA.

Once the League Risk Management Coordinator receives disclosure statements, the League RMC shall establish a random selection process, by which select disclosure statements are reviewed. Each RMC shall further establish procedures to maintain the disclosure

statements and related documents in the strictest confidence.

Once a Disclosure Statement is reviewed by the League/Club RMC, he or she shall apply standards adopted by the IYSA Board of Directors as enumerated herein and adopted in order to determine whether a person submitting the Disclosure Statement should be excluded from participation in IYSA programs. The League/Club RMC shall make recommendations for such exclusion to the IYSA RMC. The IYSA RMC shall have the responsibility to present to the IYSA Board of Directors his/her concerns with respect to continuation of any person in any IYSA program, arising from a disclosure statement review. If the IYSA Board of Directors determines that a person should be excluded from the program, the IYSA RMC shall notify that person in writing by certified, registered mail. The contents of the letter will require resignation of the person from all IYSA affiliated organizations within ten (10) days of receipt. If the person decides to appeal the decision of the IYSA RMC, the person shall send a letter requesting an appeal hearing to the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice of exclusion. The normal appeal process of the Board of Directors will then be in effect. As a condition of appeal, the person agrees to have no contact with players until the appeal is heard.

If the person receiving the notice of exclusion from the IYSA RMC does not act within the ten (10) day period from the receipt of the notice of exclusion, the IYSA RMC has the authority to approach the governing body of any or all organizations under the auspices of the IYSA to advise them that such person is not permitted to participate in the program. No notification from the IYSA RMC to any governing body will occur if the IYSA RMC is presented with sufficient evidence that the requested resignation has been filed with the affected organization.

#### **IYSA Board Policy RM-1**

##### **Board Policy for Exclusion from Programs Operated or Affiliated with the IYSA.**

Adult persons shall be subject to exclusion from participation in any manner and at any level for any programs directly or indirectly overseen by IYSA, including its affiliated leagues, clubs and/or organizations for conviction within fifteen (15) years of the date of signing the Disclosure Statement of any of the following crimes: murder, kidnaping, rape, robbery, arson burglary, manslaughter, extortion, indecent liberties, incest, vehicular homicide, prostitution, corruption of a minor, unlawful imprisonment, sexual exploitation of a minor, child abuse or neglect, child molestation, sexual misconduct with a minor, promoting pornography including electronic or internet, distributing drugs or alcohol to a minor, violation of any child abuse restraining order, conviction for assault/battery where judgement is rendered any time during the ten (10) years prior to the date of the receipt of the Disclosure Statement.

#### **IYSA Board Policy RM-2**

##### **Board Policy Regarding Appeals of Suspensions or Exclusions**

Any person subject to any suspension or exclusion pursuant to the policies adopted by the Board of the IYSA may appeal any such suspension or exclusion to the Board of Directors through the established Appeals Committee. All appeals shall be handled by procedures adopted by the Board and made available to any person who exercises his or her right to appeal.

#### **IYSA Board Policy RM-3**

##### **Board Policy for Suspension from Programs Operated or Affiliated with the IYSA**

Pursuant to United States Youth Soccer Association Rule 4043 and policies adopted by the IYSA, any person participating in any IYSA program who becomes a defendant in any litigation, the outcome of which would subject the litigant to exclusion under the policies identified in BOARD POLICY RM-1 or any litigation based on activities otherwise detrimental to the welfare of minors shall be subjected to suspension from all soccer-related activities until such litigation is resolved by court order. The phrase "matters detrimental to the welfare of youth players" shall include all the offenses listed in BOARD POLICY RM-1 and may be extended to include other crimes or charges of moral turpitude. For purposes of this policy, the phrase "a defendant in litigation" shall include the arrest, indictment, citation or equivalent "formal charge" of any adult person for any crimes or other offenses listed above. The IYSA RMC will determine the period of suspension subject to appeal.