

Ensuring Safety in Sports Clubs and Youth Associations

As summer approaches, we anticipate a season filled with activities. Our top priority is to create a safe environment for all children involved, while taking a firm stance against bullying, sexual abuse and other violence.

1. Background and Expectations:

- It is essential that all participants understand what is expected of them in terms of proper behavior.
- Codes of Conduct should be openly discussed on a regular basis with staff, volunteers, parents and participants.

2. Legal Considerations:

- Icelandic law on youth and sports organisations prohibits hiring or recruiting anyone with a history of sexual offenses or recent drug offenses.
- Clubs have the right [to check individuals against the criminal register](#).

3. Response Plan:

- The Communications Counselor for Sports and Youth Activities (Samskiptaráðgjafi) has issued a [coordinated response plan to address violence, bullying, accidents, and other incidents](#).

4. Education on Violence and Harassment:

- The Government Agency for Children and Family (Barna- og fjölskyldustofa) has developed [an online course for those that work with children and youth](#), focusing on sexual violence against children from different perspectives. Attention is also drawn to an online course offer by [the Icelandic Youth Forum \(Aeskulydsvettvangurinn\) for staff and volunteers in sports and youth activities](#).

5. Recruitment Checklist:

- When recruiting new staff and volunteers, [follow a checklist that includes](#):
 - Verifying recommendations
 - Checking criminal records
 - Presenting Codes of Ethics to new recruits
 - Presenting the Response Plan to new recruits
 - Verifying that new recruits have completed obligatory online courses on sexual violence and harassment.

6. Additional Resources:

- Explore information on violence prevention at [112.is](#) and [stoppofbeldi.is](#).

The clubs and associations should address any incidents that come up in their activities. If you have questions or concerns this summer, do not hesitate to seek advice from The Communications Counselor for Sports and Youth Activities, 112, child protection services or the police.

Wishing everyone a safe and pleasant summer!



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