



## Horn Lake Parks & Recreation

### **Abuse and Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy**

The purpose of the youth sports programs in Horn Lake Parks & Recreation is to teach fundamental skills, sportsmanship and elements of team play in a fun, safe and positive environment. To that end, we have adopted the following policies designed to reduce the likelihood of inappropriate behavior toward our program participants.

#### **Criminal Background Checks**

- All staff, volunteer head and assistant coaches will be subject to a criminal background check and sexual offender
- registry check prior to contact with any players.

#### **Coaches Pledge**

All volunteer coaches will sign and agree to abide by the tenets set forth in our coach's pledge, specifically, regarding this policy:

- Timely communication with parents regarding practices and games.
- Refraining from abusive or disrespectful behavior of any kind.

#### **Limit One on One Contact**

- It is our policy that no activities shall take place involving one on one contact between a single league volunteer and a child, if such activities can be practically avoided.
- Instead, a buddy system is encouraged where two (2) adults should always be present during practices, games, carpooling.

#### **Take Home / Pick up**

- Take home/pick-up of athletes by league personnel is strongly discouraged because of the difficulty in limiting one on one contact between adult and child.
- Parents should provide transportation for their own children to and from scheduled events.
- The league will clearly outline the expected start and end time for all events and communicate this with all parents.
- Parents should be instructed to make back-up plans in the event they can't provide

transportation.

### **Touching**

- Touching is acceptable only if it is "respectful and appropriate".

### **Sleepovers**

- All sleepover activities are prohibited. As an organization, we do not allow, endorse or approve of team sleepovers. Parents can have a sleepover providing it is outside the authority of this organization.

### **Offsite Practices or Events**

- Coaches are not to hold practices or other activities at a location other than provided and approved practice facilities.