

IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS HIGH RISK AREAS

For misconduct to take place, an offender needs privacy, access, and control. One way to reduce the risk for abuse is to design strategies for addressing these high-risk areas, which include travel, locker rooms, and electronic communications. Teams should adopt policies that spell out expectations and create boundaries.

SPEAK UP

If you recognize questionable behaviors, say something! Your youth sports organization should designate someone—a coach, the team administration, or a parent advocate—who is there to hear your concerns or take a report of inappropriate behavior. Make sure that everyone knows that person.

TALK TO YOUR KIDS!

Physical and sexual misconduct can be a hard topic for parents to talk about with their children. Having these conversations is extremely important in helping prevent your child from becoming a victim of abuse. Having ongoing and open conversations with children about their bodies and appropriate boundaries will make it easier for them to talk to you if anyone is making them feel uncomfortable.