

Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines

Training for Kiwanis club
members

2018



Kiwanis[®]



Why this training?

- Child abuse can happen anywhere.
- Kiwanis youth programs have more than 300,000 members.
- Working with youth = trust.



Why this training?

**Kiwanians should act
with *the highest*
standards of care**



Training objectives

- Understand
- Protect
- Identify
- Respond



Terms and background

- Youth Protection Guidelines history
- Abuse
 - Emotional
 - Physical
 - Sexual
- “Troubling behavior”





The guidelines

Education

- Clubs must educate members annually.
- Districts will have forums or workshops at conventions and conferences.



The guidelines

Chaperone

- 21 years of age or older
- Approved by school or agency to accompany youth at the event.



The guidelines

Criminal history background checks

- Required of any Kiwanis advisor to SLP clubs.
- Encouraged for all adults working or serving with Kiwanis youth
- Clubs should have a policy.
- Approved background checks shall be valid for no more than ten years.



The guidelines

Overnight stays

- One adult for each 10 youth of the same gender.
- Separate sleeping quarters



The guidelines

Transportation

- Check local laws
- Ask school about policies
- Two adults in one vehicle (or "rule of threes")



The guidelines

Medication

Only allow with *written* permission of parent or guardian.



The guidelines

Alcohol/tobacco

Refrain from using alcoholic beverages and tobacco products.



The guidelines

Reporting

You must report if you:

- Observe troubling behavior
- Learn of illegal/unsafe situation

A resource: National Child Abuse Hotline



The guidelines

Reporting

In short:

1. "Reasonable person standard."
2. If participants or chaperones are not in immediate danger, contact school personnel first.
3. Emergency? Call local law enforcement immediately.



The guidelines

Personal information

- Keep at least 3 years
- Keep it confidential
- When destroying, shred to keep confidentiality



The guidelines

Youth and social media

- Adults should not initiate “friendships” or connections
- Interactions are public
- Other possible online interactions?



The guidelines

Behavioral or health issues

- Leave it to the professionals
- Behavioral vs. personal: use good judgment
- Where to find help for youth



The guidelines

When rules conflict

Always follow the highest applicable standard.



Best practices

- Background checks: every two years
- Protection: rule of 3's
- Best vehicle choice: school or commercial
- Reporting: follow the bylaws
- Media: be helpful, but let the authorities be the authorities
- Maintain confidentiality





The Guidelines

If your club sponsors an Aktion Club

- Consult the Aktion Club Member Guidelines, available online.
- Kiwanis advisors to Aktion Clubs need an approved background check.



The Guidelines

If your club sponsors a CKI Club:

- Best practices can still apply.
- CKI members fall under the same background check policies as Kiwanians.
- Kiwanis advisors to CKI clubs need an approved background check.

Thank you for your
attention and participation.



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