CJRC ATHLETE PROTECTION POLICY

Overview

In the event that any staff member or volunteer observes inappropriate behaviors (i.e., policy violations), suspected physical or sexual abuse, or misconduct, it is the personal responsibility of each staff member and volunteer to immediately report his or her observations to a head coach, the director, or another CJRC board member.

CJRC is committed to creating a safe and positive environment for athletes’ physical, emotional and social development and to ensuring that it promotes an environment free of misconduct.

Staff members and volunteers should not attempt to evaluate the credibility or validity of child physical or sexual abuse allegations as a condition for reporting to appropriate law enforcement authorities.Instead, it is the responsibility of each staff member or volunteer to immediately report his or her observations to the director or another CJRC board member.

CJRC recognizes that the process for training and motivating athletes will vary with each coach and athlete, but it is nevertheless important for everyone involved in sport to support the use of motivational and training methods that avoid misconduct.

Application

This Policy applies to

* Coaches, Board Members, and Volunteers
* CJRC athletes and athletes’ Parents

Staff members, volunteers, athletes and participants shall refrain from all forms of misconduct, which include:

* Bullying
* Harassment
* Hazing
* Emotional misconduct
* Physical misconduct
* Sexual misconduct, including child sexual abuse.

Prohibited Conduct

Child Sexual Abuse

1. Any sexual activity with a child where consent is not or cannot be given. This includes sexual contact with a child that is accomplished by deception, manipulation, force or threat of force, regardless of the age of the participants, and all sexual interactions between an adult and a child, regardless of whether there is deception or the child understands the sexual nature of the activity.
2. Any act or conduct described as child sexual abuse under federal or state law.

Emotional Misconduct

1. A pattern of deliberate, non-contact behavior that has the potential to cause emotional or psychological harm to an athlete. Non-contact behaviors include:
   1. Verbal acts
   2. Physical acts
   3. Acts that deny attention or support
2. Any act or conduct described as emotional abuse or misconduct under federal or state law (e.g. child abuse, child neglect).

Physical Misconduct

1. Contact or non-contact conduct that results in, or reasonably threaten to, cause physical harm to an athlete or other sport participants; or
2. Any act or conduct described as physical abuse or misconduct under federal or state law (e.g. child abuse, child neglect, assault).

Sexual Misconduct

1. Any touching or non-touching sexual interaction that is (a) nonconsensual or forced, (b) coerced or manipulated, or (c) perpetrated in an aggressive, harassing, exploitative or threatening manner;
2. Any sexual interaction between an athlete and an individual with evaluative, direct or indirect authority. Such relationships involve an imbalance of power and are likely to impair judgment or be exploitative; or
3. Any act or conduct described as sexual abuse or misconduct under federal or state law (e.g. sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, rape)

Types of Sexual Misconduct

Types of sexual misconduct include:

1. Sexual assault,
2. Sexual harassment,
3. Sexual abuse, or
4. Any other sexual intimacies that exploit an athlete. Minors cannot consent to sexual activity with an adult, and all sexual interaction between an adult and a minor is strictly prohibited.

Bullying

1. An intentional, persistent and repeated pattern of committing or willfully tolerating physical and non-physical behaviors that are intended, or have the reasonable potential, to cause fear, humiliation or physical harm in an attempt to socially exclude, diminish or isolate the targeted athlete(s), as a condition of membership
2. Any act or conduct described as bullying under federal or state law

Harassment

1. A repeated pattern of physical and/or non-physical behaviors that (a) are intended to cause fear, humiliation or annoyance, (b) offend or degrade, (c) create a hostile environment or (d) reflect discriminatory bias in an attempt to establish dominance, superiority or power over an individual athlete or group based on gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, gender expression or mental or physical disability; or
2. Any act or conduct described as harassment under federal or state law

Hazing

1. Coercing, requiring, forcing or willfully tolerating any humiliating, unwelcome or dangerous activity that serves as a condition for (a) joining a group or (b) being socially accepted by a group’s members; or
2. Any act or conduct described as hazing under federal or state law

Willfully Tolerating Misconduct

It is a violation of this Athlete Protection Policy if a staff member and/or volunteer knows of misconduct, but takes no action to intervene on behalf of the athlete(s), participant(s), staff member, and/or volunteer.

Reporting

Although these policies are designed to reduce child sexual abuse and other misconduct, it can still occur. Staff members, volunteers and participants of CJRC shall follow established best reporting procedures. CJRC does not investigate suspicions or allegations of child physical or sexual abuse, or attempt to evaluate the credibility or validity of such allegations, as a condition of reporting suspicions or allegations to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Violations

The CJRC Executive Board will address violations of the Athlete Protection Policy.