

## GSIA Safeguarding and good practise in Sport.(Exercise 3a)

### Exercise 3a - Section 2. Identifying and recognising good coaching Practise.

Coaching Scenarios. Please look at the scenarios below. Identify a concern and then a possible solution to the concern.

**A gifted young performer in an under 14's squad requests individual, one to one coaching even though they are part of a group**

**Concern:**Negatives - Favouritism. Working alone with a performer. Positive - helping an elite player to reach potential.

**Possible solution:**Explain to whole team and invite to join in extra training. Work with individual performers at the same time as other squad training to ensure you are not alone. Invite parent or volunteer to be present whilst training is taking place.

**Some children whom you coach ask to visit your house to see your collection of sports medals and trophies, and to borrow some training manuals.**

**Concern:**Young performers visiting your home, personal space, alone.

**Possible solution:**Offer to take medals to club. Prepare a book list and offer to all young performers. Offer a virtual tour of medals and training manuals on line. Discuss with parents and organise a presentation type evening where parents are also invited.

**You are asked to attend a training weekend where, for supervisory reasons, you are allocated a sleeping area with a group of children.**

**Concern:**Adult sleeping in same area as children.

**Possible solution:**Separate an area preferably so that youngsters have to pass by your area before they can leave their own sleeping area. Always ensure two adults present. Preferred option separate sleeping accommodation, but close to youngsters. Discuss situation with parents to agree protocols.

**A new coach used inappropriate language which the children repeat, making fun of other groups in a loud, suggestive manner.**

**Concern:** Normalisation of unacceptable language. Poor role model. Can lead to condoning bullying type behaviours. Bad practise.

**Possible solution:** Coach education, training surrounding expected codes of behaviour for coaches and performers. Address in Safeguarding training. Discuss with Welfare Officer. Consider relationship with the offending coach and pros and cons of addressing situation personally, but don't ignore.

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**You are asked to coach a young adult with additional special needs but are not given time to discuss her specific requirements, either with the young adult herself or her carer.**

**Concern:** Don't know the skill level or level of understanding the performer has. Performer may not be able to cope with level and intensity of training, which may lead to them feeling uncomfortable, not good enough. Could be a health and safety issue and may need to adapt certain elements of the lesson programme. Don't want the performer to feel not good enough if coach does not have required information to plan appropriate sessions. Skill level of performer may disrupt the planned session.

**Possible solution:** Ask performer and carer to watch the session to view if it is at an appropriate level to ensure the performer has a positive experience. Discuss motivation and skill levels with the performer and the carer and make a decision on whether the sessions can or needs to be adapted to ensure a positive experience. Or if session is not appropriate help to try and identify other opportunities without making the performer with special needs feel not good enough.

**A child in your care receives a bang on his head. He appears to be fine, so you forget to inform his parents and omit to complete an accident report.**

**Concern:** Health and Safety. Could be a delayed concussion or fracture.

**Possible solution:** Coach education on codes of practise for coaches under health and safety and NOP's, EOP's. Coaches codes of practise training. Always complete and accident report form and inform parents. Session evaluations with youngsters and parents.

**During a coaching session, a young performer begins to suggest that they really like you and would like to meet you for a coffee.**

**Concern:** Inappropriate relationship, warning bells. Could be a cry for help or a possible disclosure.

**Possible solution:** Discuss reason why the performer wants to meet at the end of the session whilst other performers and coaches are present, but cannot necessarily hear, semi private, but in the company of others. Either explain that it is inappropriate if it is for inappropriate reasons. If you detect a cry for help or a possible disclosure, ensure that you meet in a public place and inform you Welfare Officer of your actions with reasons beforehand. Always protect yourself from possible accusations.

**You are asked to take a squad to and away fixture by yourself.**

**Concern:** Alone, away from base with junior performers, bad practise. Consider if there was an accident or emergency with one of performers or yourself as a coach. How would you cope with ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the rest of the squad?

**Possible solution:** Discuss with parents and other organisation members. Invite an assistant coach, volunteer or parent to accompany you on the trip. Do not recommend solo supervision, away fixture for youngsters, may consider with over 17's subject to discussion with parents and welfare Officer and safeguarding protocols put in place.

**Parents and family members are recording primary school children during their school**

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### sports day gym display.

**Concern:** Taking photos of other people's children as well as your own. Photos being placed on social media and available to paedophiles.

**Possible solution:** School codes of practise on taking photos at sports day. Possible on front of programmes or signage. Parent codes of practise to include information on taking photos in year books or communication with parents. Signage in facilities re no photos. Sporting codes of practise venue based, association based and school based. Only accredited photographers wearing accreditation to take photos.

### Spectators recording the semi-final of the under 12's netball Cup.

**Concern:** Taking photos of other people's children. Sponsors copyrights.

**Possible solution:** Agree safeguarding policy to address photography of junior events and performers. Communication with parents in club rules. Place signage on programmes and on notice boards. Only accredited photographers wearing accreditation.