

Gibraltar Sports & Leisure Authority (GSLA)

Safeguarding Children & Young People in Sport. (Gibraltar)

Information in this presentation includes excerpts from Sports Coach UK
Safeguarding and Protecting Children and The Care Agencies Tier 1
Safeguarding Training.



The Learning Agreement

- ▶ Personal Safety.
- ▶ Open mindedness.
- ▶ Confidentiality .
- ▶ Professionalism.
- ▶ Exercises.
- ▶ Reading material.
- ▶ Action.



Section 1 Introduction - Safeguarding Children & Young People in Sport (Gibraltar)

Workshop Aims:

1. To understand safeguarding and practises and policies in Gibraltar.
2. Identify and recognise good coaching practice and the implications for coaching young performers.
3. Explore your values and feelings in relation to child abuse and recognise their potential impact on your response.
4. Recognise and respond to the signs and symptoms of poor practice and child abuse.
5. Take appropriate action if concerns about a child/young person arises.



Legal Framework and HMGOG Criteria

Malta legislation

HMGOG - Children's Act 2009.

HMGOG - Executive Child Protection Committee (CPC).

Changes in HMGOG Safeguarding Policy 2017.

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- Obligation to work in partnership with children and families ...to keep families together (no-order principle).
- Children are best looked after by their own families.
- Avoid unnecessary intrusion into family life. The wishes and feelings of the child ...taken into account Parents with children in need should be helped to care for their children (s.17) / (s.104)
- Children should be safe and protected by effective intervention (s.47) (s.99)

HM Government - Every Child Matters - Working together to Safeguard Children 2015



GSLA Safeguarding criteria for working with children and young people

- ▶ All coaches, leaders, volunteers and officials working with children and young people in HMGOG sport & leisure facilities are required to hold a recognised level 1 qualification (or equivalent) in the coaching of their sport, leisure activity or discipline. They must also be Royal Gibraltar Police Vetted or produce recent vetting documentation from country of origin. They must also have taken part in a recognised safeguarding and protection children workshop.
- ▶ Emergency First Aid and the training of first aiders during sporting, physical or leisure association/club activities on HMGOG facilities is the responsibility of the Governing Body or organisation leading that activity.
- ▶ All registered Governing Bodies of Sport and leisure associations working with young people under the age of 18 years on HMGOG facilities must have an up to date safeguarding policy. This policy must be submitted to the GSLA and any amendments must accompany the annual registration or community use booking.



GSLA Annual registration of Sports Associations and registration of Leisure Associations.

- ▶ Governing Bodies of sport, leisure associations and organisations working with young people under 18 years of age must have a nominated Welfare Officer who has completed Care Agency Tier 1 Safeguarding Training.
- ▶ Registration of Coaches, Officials and Leaders who work with children and young people under the age of 18 years must be recorded by the said organising body and available as part of their Safeguarding Policy. All junior Coaches, Officials and Leaders must have undertaken safeguarding training, GSLA Safeguarding children and young people in sport or HMGOG, Care Agency Tier 1 Safeguarding Training or as part of their level 1 coaching qualification.
- ▶ All junior Coaches, Official, Leaders must be police vetted (no flexibility on this item). If junior coaches have been in Gibraltar for less than 2 years they must provide the police vetting for their country of origin.



Association Safeguarding policies and procedures.

- ▶ Does your Governing Body/ Organisation have a safeguarding policy?
- ▶ Have you read it? Do you understand it ?
- ▶ Who is your Governing Body/ Organisation Welfare officer?

If the answer is no or don't know to any of the above, it is of the utmost importance that you get in touch with your Governing Body of Sport / Association or organisation and find out the information you need to know.



Duty Of Care

- ▶ All voluntary organisations have a duty in law not to harm or endanger anyone as a result of their activities (or inactivity). This is termed 'Duty of care' and has been developed through the courts over many years. Your responsibility as a Governing body of Sports, Leisure Association or organising body is to consider the duty of care owed to your members and in particular your junior members.

IF YOU SUSPECT POOR PRACTICE OR ABUSE, NO ACTIONS IS NOT AN OPTION!

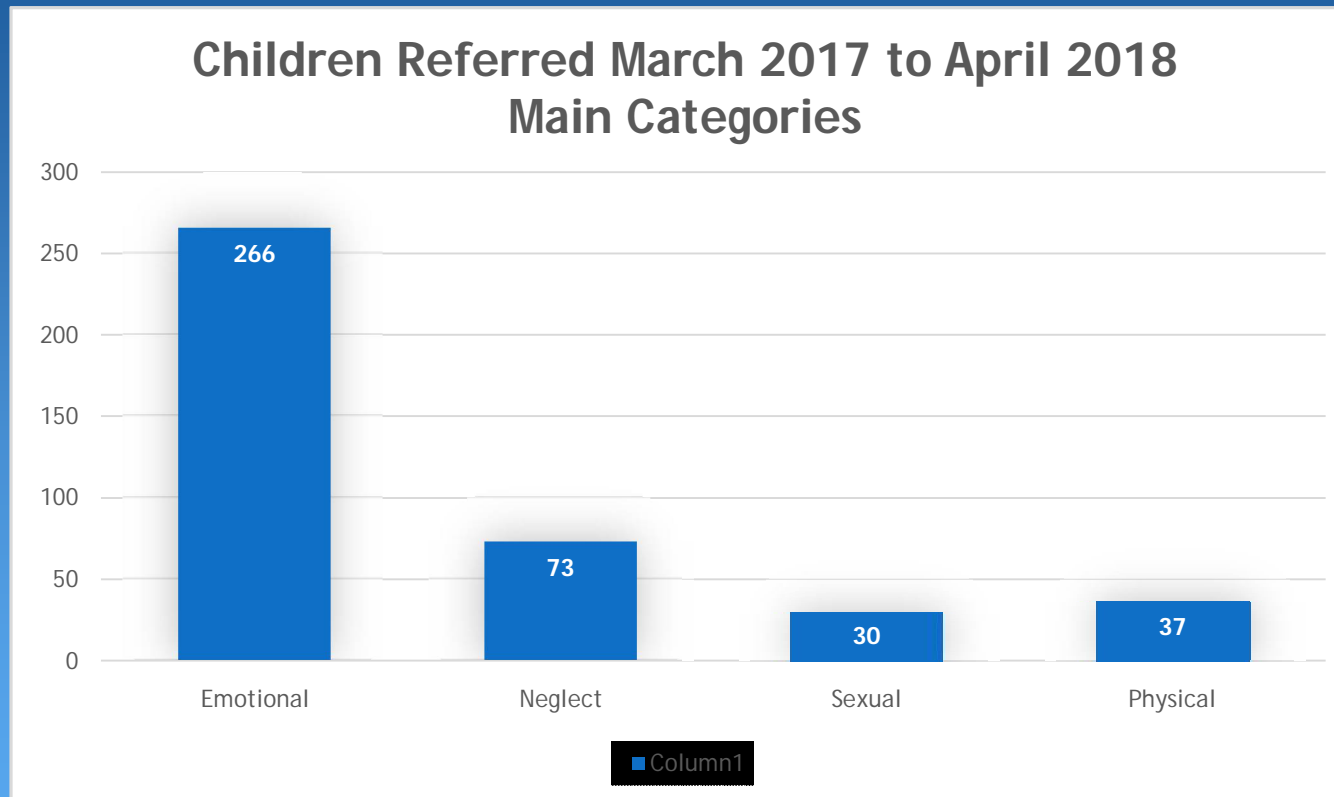


Position of Trust

- Don't forget you are in a position of trust. With trust comes power, with power comes responsibility.
- It's not considered wrong to take your daughter and daughters gym mate back home for a sleepover and insist they eat dinner and go to bed early in readiness for a competitions or training.
- It is not okay for you to abuse your position of trust for your personal gratification or motivations.
- It is not okay to do nothing if you suspect abuse or poor practise.



Scale of the Problem (Gibraltar)



Working together to safeguard children and young people.

Victoria Climbié



Working together to safeguard children and young people.

- ▶ If we feel that a child or young person may need help or may be at risk, we need to ensure that we work together, carefully and confidentially to ensure that no child falls through the net. We may hold a piece of a much bigger jigsaw.
- ▶ If we are working with children and young people in sport and leisure we need to ensure good practise. We need to ensure they are safe and the experience they have whilst in our care is positive. We are role models.

