

## Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse...

It's the Law!



### Why Mandatory Reporting?

- Section 32A of the Children Law (2012 Revision) makes it mandatory for certain people including sports officials to report suspicions of child abuse.
- Failure to report child abuse could result in fines or imprisonment or both.
- Because every child has a right to a healthy and safe childhood.

*"You maybe the only defense a child has. If you don't report abuse, who will?"*



### Contact Information:

Department of  
Children and Family Services

Phone: 8:30am to 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday  
(excluding public holidays)  
(345) 949-0290 (Grand Cayman)  
(345) 948-2331 (Cayman Brac)  
or call 911 after 5:00 pm

Offices: 2nd Floor Commerce House  
7 Genesis Close, Grand Cayman

23 Dennis Foster Road  
Stake Bay, Cayman Brac

E-mail: [DCFSIntake@gov.ky](mailto:DCFSIntake@gov.ky)

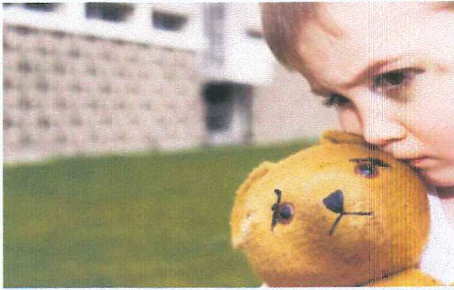
For a full copy of the Child Abuse Prevention Policy please visit our DCFS website  
[www.dcf.gov.ky](http://www.dcf.gov.ky)

# Sporting Associations

## Child Abuse Prevention Policy







## What is Child Abuse

Child abuse is physical, sexual or psychological mistreatment or neglect of a child. It includes any act or failure to act by an NSA Official or volunteer resulting in actual or potential harm.

A child is defined as "someone under the age of 18 years".

## Mandatory Reporting Policy

The Child Abuse Prevention Policy for National Sports Association ("the policy") fulfills the mandatory child abuse reporting requirements of the Children Law (2012 Revision).

The Ministry of Community Affairs, Youth and Sports, through the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) is responsible for the policy's implementation.

The Children Law (2012 Revision) makes it mandatory that any person in a role such as a sports club official must report any suspicion of child abuse to the DCFS.

## NSA and Club Responsibilities

Each NSA must appoint a Child Protection Officer (CPO) for the Association. Each Club within the Association must appoint a CPO for the Club.

NSA must ensure all CPO's and Officials are trained by the DCFS.

## Guidelines for Reporting Concerns / Suspicions of Child Abuse

If an Official has a suspicion that a child has been or is being abused or neglected and the suspicion is formed in the course of the Official's work with the NSA or a Member Club, that Official must:

- Notify the Club CPO of the suspicion as soon as practicable after he/she forms the suspicion - preferably the same day.
- Give the Club CPO a written statement of the observations along with information and opinions on which the suspicion is based using the DCFS approved notification form.
- Give the Club CPO the Official's contact details.

On receiving a notification form the Club CPO must:

- Assist the Official to complete and compile the information required for the notification form.
- Make contact with DCFS via:-
  - telephone: 345-949-0290, 345-948-2331  
8:30am to 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday  
(excluding public holidays)  
or call 911 after 5:00pm
  - email: [DCFSintake@gov.ky](mailto:DCFSintake@gov.ky)

Contact should be made as soon as possible on the same day the notification is received from the Official.

Telephone referrals must be followed by an email within 24 hours

- Contact DCFS in the presence of the Official. If this is not possible, the Club CPO must immediately notify the Official that the notification has been forwarded to DCFS.
- Immediately provide the NSA CPO with a copy of the notification form.

On receiving a copy of the notification form the NSA CPO must:

- Provide any assistance that the Club CPO needs to deal with the notification or affected child.
- Immediately report to the Technical Director and President (or Vice President in absence of President) that a notification has been made to DCFS.
- If the Club CPO is unavailable or the suspicion arises during an event hosted directly by NSA and not a Member Club, the Official will report the notification directly to the NSA CPO who will take the steps set out for the Club Protection Officer above.
- If the NSA CPO is unavailable the Technical Director will fulfill that role.
- In the unlikely event that an Official cannot make contact with the Club CPO, NSA CPO or Technical Director on the day on which they form their suspicion, the Official must notify DCFS directly.

Written statements and information are confidential and may only be passed onto the NSA Child Protection Office and DCFS.

## Steps for Keeping Children Safe

- All Officials will undergo background screening checks in accordance with the Policy.
- All Officials will undergo DCFS child abuse prevention training.

## Parents and Athletes Can Report Suspicions Too

- Notify the Club CPO of the suspicion as soon as practicable after he/she forms the suspicion.
- Provide the Club CPO with a written statement of the observations along with information and opinions on which the suspicion is based using the DCFS approved notification form.