



January 18, 2012

Dear Coaches, Team Managers and Program Representatives,

The SNLA board would like to share some information about the Coach Background Screening process which is mandatory for SNLA coaches this season. Several people have raised questions about the process and the manner in which sensitive information is collected and stored.

SNLA has implemented the coach criminal background screening requirement after many requests and inquiries from parents. SNLA board members researched several options for background screening service providers. The board does not take this requirement lightly; we understand that the screening adds a step to the coach registration process. However, the SNLA board places the safety of the athletes above all else. Therefore, SNLA has chosen to follow the example of mandatory criminal background screening for coaches set by many local and national youth organizations, such as the Clark County School District, American Youth Soccer Organization, USA Swimming, USA Track & Field, and many others.

SNLA has partnered with the National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI) to provide the background screening services. NCSI is nationally known and endorsed by US Lacrosse as well as many other National Organizations. If you have any questions or concerns about the process or the security of information, please visit the NCSI website at <http://www.ncsisafe.com/> or contact them directly.

During the SNLA Coach Registration process, coaches are asked a series of questions in 3 phases. The first phase is information collected & retained by SNLA such as name, address, phone number, etc. We ask for date of birth so that we can interface with the US Lacrosse membership services department to verify US Lacrosse membership. In the second phase, if necessary, the SNLA website will re-direct registrants to the US Lacrosse website for membership services and then return to the SNLA website.

In the third phase of the process, registrants are directed to the NCSI website to complete the background check. NCSI asks for basic personal information to determine if coaches have been convicted of any felony or other lesser crimes involving force, sexual relations, controlled substances or cruelty to animals. If any adverse event is identified by NCSI, then NCSI contacts the coach directly to confirm or refute the information. SNLA only becomes involved after NCSI has worked with the coach. Furthermore, SNLA does not ever have access to any sensitive information, nor does NCSI disclose any adverse event. SNLA simply receives a red light or green light indicating the status of the registrant's background screening. Please see SNLA Coach Background Screening Policy available on the SNLA website.

Please contact any SNLA board member if you wish to discuss the Coach Background Screening requirement. The SNLA values the time, energy and dedication of all the volunteers who make the SNLA Spring Season successful. Have a great season!

The SNLA Board of Directors



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