



## Respect in Sport FAQ

### GENERAL

#### **What is Respect in Sport?**

RiS is an on-line training course for coaches and sport leaders. It is designed as a tool to assist coaches in identifying and dealing with abuse, neglect, harassment, and bullying in sport.

#### **Why is this being implemented?**

Sport Manitoba believes that we should be proactive in making sport in our Province safe and welcoming for all participants. Respect in Sport helps us promote those values through this simple and convenient on-line tool. It is being implemented to provide a better sport environment for our children.

#### **Why is it mandatory?**

It's a strong word but this is an important issue and we believe ALL coaches and sport leaders must understand the fundamentals. In knowing that all of our coaches have had this essential training we will also better mitigate liability both personal and organizational.

#### **How is Respect in Sport implemented?**

Respect in Sport is presented as an online curriculum and includes audio/visual presentations, quizzes and printable handouts.

#### **What is Sport Manitoba's role in implementing the program?**

Sport Manitoba is leading this initiative with the support of the Province of Manitoba and Coaching Manitoba.

#### **What equipment is required to use Respect in Sport?**

All that is required to complete the Respect in Sport curriculum is a computer, an Internet connection and speakers or a headset. Optional equipment includes a printer to print the handouts and/or your certificate of completion.

#### **What if I don't have a personal computer?**

Respect in Sport is available from any community computer- your work, library, a friend, band office, school. Your information will be confidential as you log on with your own password to access the program each time.

**What if I don't have a high-speed connection?**

The course is designed to be accessible from any PC using a dial-up or high-speed Internet. Once modules are downloaded, the user experience is the same at any speed. The speed of download is completely dependant on the connection speed.

**What if I don't know anything about computers?**

Through extensive research and development, the program was designed, first and foremost, to be user friendly. It is extremely simple to use and has been implemented and tested by many sport organizations with little or no reported difficulties. There is also an on-line "Help" feature and a 1-800 support line available.

**Is there a paper version of the program?**

No, by design. We are forever creating paper that costs lots of money and sits in the corner unused. Respect in Sport's online courseware eliminates the need for our organization to absorb printing, mailing and administration costs. Respect in Sport also gives you ongoing access to the course once you've completed it, as an online resource. There are some documents you can print if you want them but that is your choice.

**NCCP****How does this relate to NCCP training?**

Respect in Sport was designed to compliment the existing NCCP programs.

**How is this different than the making ethical decisions NCCP module?**

Quite different and far more specific in dealing with the key issues of abuse, neglect, bullying and harassment. That's the focus. Again, it fully compliments the making ethical decisions NCCP module.

**How does this affect my certification requirements?**

It won't affect your NCCP certification. You will be certified in Respect in Sport separately and your sport organization will track that separately.

**COACH****As a volunteer coach I am being asked to do another course?**

Yes. It really is one of the most important courses you'll take as a volunteer who is responsible for teaching and training athletes. With this training you should feel more confident in dealing with issues relating to abuse, neglect, bullying and harassment and hopefully feel much more secure in this often overlooked area. This course will protect you and the young people in your care and hopefully make you feel more comfortable being a volunteer.

**How long is the course?**

It's a total of three hours but it's split in 6 simple half hour modules.

**Do I have to do it all at once?**

That's the beauty. You can do it at your leisure. Just come and go as you please. The program knows where you left off and brings you back to that point when next you sign-in.

**What is the deadline?**

All active coaches will be required to take the course by December of 2007. That gives coaches more than a year to complete the 3-hour training.

**How much does it cost?**

Because we at Sport Manitoba believe so strongly in this program and the values it promotes, we are absorbing all costs. So, for you, it's free!

**Do I have to take the course every year?**

No. You take the 3-hour course in year one when you'll get certified. In year 2 you'll be able to access the program as an on-line resource. In year three, you'll get recertified with a summary version, probably 45 minutes. Year four, it's an on-line resource. You'll take the full course (which will have been updated by then) again in year five and be recertified.

**What are the benefits for a coach?**

- It will help you better understand the responsibilities, reward and respect that come with being a coach.
- It will make you more confident in identifying and dealing with abuse, neglect, bullying and harassment.
- It will ensure a safer and more respectful environment for you, other coaches and the children in your care.
- As a more knowledgeable coach, it will also better mitigate your own personal liability associated with this very volatile area within sport.

**What if I coach more than one sport?**

It covers all sports within Manitoba and your certification is good across the board. You will only have to complete the course once.

**What happens if I don't do the program?**

If you decide not to take the course, that's fine, you just won't be able to volunteer in the capacity of coach.

**Why do I have to take this course if I am coaching adults?**

Values are values. Whether you are coaching youth or adults the issues of abuse, neglect, bullying and harassment are the same.

**I'm just helping out, I'm not the head coach. Why should I have to take the course too?**

Anyone who is in a leadership position with our youth or adults and involved in sport needs to have this knowledge.

## **PSOs**

### **How can I implement RiS?**

By getting educated with the materials and information you will help support the implementation. Through a meeting with your sport consultant specific implementation plans will be determined.

### **What are the benefits for a PSO?**

By implementing the program PSOs are making a commitment to the safety of your athletes. It provides coaches with the tools to deal with legal and moral responsibilities making them less vulnerable and more confident in dealing with sensitive issues. It acts as a risk management tool to help your organization reduce your liability.

The benefits include:

- liability reduction
- help to create a sport specific database
- coach retention
- consistent training for coaches across all sports

### **How do athletes benefit?**

Respect in Sport will ensure a safer, more welcoming sport environment where respect is paramount. It will make enjoyment levels go up and hopefully keep our participants involved in sport.

### **What are the consequences of not implementing the program?**

Each PSO will be required through the Terms and Conditions of Funding. PSO funding will be affected if the program is not implemented.

### **How do we enforce the mandatory requirement?**

By ensuring that all coaches in your sport on the field of play have taken the course. PSOs will be asked to not allow coaches that haven't completed the course to coach. Sport Manitoba will work individually with each PSO to support them in enforcing the mandatory requirement.

### **How will I know which coaches have completed the course? Who will track?**

The database will track all registrants on a per sport basis. Each sport will have access to their database and be able to track the progress of their users. The database is simple to manage and we will work with PSOs on a common approach that makes sense and will really work.