



Illinois Youth Soccer Announces New Risk Management Procedures

Coming out of the Sally Yates Investigative report revealing systematic abuse across all levels of soccer, US Soccer launched the Participant Safety Taskforce. The Taskforce was charged with coordinating and collaborating on conduct-related policies and procedures from the youth level all the way up to the professional leagues and senior national teams. As a result, one of the programs launched was the [Safe Soccer Clearance Program](#), which will strengthen safeguarding by providing an option for “green-lighting” eligible participants, in addition to “red-lighting” bad actors after an incident has occurred.

US Soccer’s [Safe Soccer Clearance Program](#) centralizes safeguarding elements in one easy-to-use program that includes the Center for SafeSport’s core training, purpose-built safeguarding education, annual verification of contact information, and a USOPC background screening. This program streamlines safeguarding processes, ensuring safety, compliance, and ease for all involved.

Illinois Youth Soccer is committed to creating a safe and positive environment for all its participants physical, emotional, and social development and to ensure that it promotes an environment free from abuse and misconduct. Effective May 1, 2025, Illinois Youth Soccer will transition their Risk Management Procedures to the US Soccer Safe Soccer Clearance Program and will require that all coaches, board members, managers, and volunteers complete all three phases:

- Phase 1
 - SafeSport Core Training (90 minutes)
 - Introduction to Safe and Healthy Playing Environments (30 minutes)
- Phase 2
 - Positive Soccer Environments (30 minutes)
 - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (30 minutes)
- Phase 3
 - USOPC Nationally Recognized Background Screening (valid for 2 years at only \$24 per individual)

Additional information will be posted on the [IYSA Background Screening](#) page as it becomes available. For any questions, please email rmc@illinoisyouthsoccer.org.