

**VALLEY YOUTH CONFERENCE
TRACK AND FIELD POLICY
REGARDING VOLUNTEERS**

1. All VYC T&F coaches and volunteers are required to be properly trained and authorized to do their job by the appropriate club authority.
2. The federal Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 may grant immunity as a defense from personal liability to those who volunteer for nonprofit organizations from civil suits for ordinary negligence if they were acting within the scope of the volunteer's responsibilities, BUT NOT caused by willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, reckless misconduct, or a conscious, flagrant indifference to the rights or safety and the harm was not caused by the volunteer operating a vehicle, vessel, or aircraft. It further exempts from coverage any misconduct that constitutes a crime, a sexual offense, a violation of civil rights, or where the volunteer was under the influence of alcohol. The Conference and each Club will not tolerate any such conduct.
3. The VYC T&F recommends that at least two unrelated adults be present when children are being supervised and that at least one adult be of the same gender as the children being supervised.
4. Volunteers need to avoid situations, including transporting children in a car, in which they are alone with a child other than their own.
5. We all know that some forms of touching or talking to children are totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated.
6. Children emulate the behavior of adults at sporting events and develop lasting attitudes and values based on the behavior modeled by adults in youth sports. Adults should therefore be very well-behaved and positive.
7. Parents should be informed that risk is associated with playing sports, including track and field.
8. Signed medical release forms should be available at all practices and meets.
9. Notwithstanding the power in the medical release form, the coach's medical role is limited to injury prevention and minor first aid as immediate treatment before regular medical care is available, not professional treatment or diagnosis.
10. Coaches, parents, and all volunteers are expected to understand that respect and positive feedback and regard for others (athletes, parents, coaches, officials, spectators and volunteers) are essential for a quality sports experience.

I certify I have read the foregoing and understand how each statement applies to me as a coach and/or volunteer and agree to each.

Print Name

Signature

Date