

# Minor to Minor Abuse Report

## **Response in First 24-48 Hours: Caring for the Victim & Family**

The response plan in the first 24 hours is the same as in the case of adult to minor abuse.

## **Response Hours 48-96: Caring for the Alleged Perpetrator**

In the case of minor to minor sexual abuse *it should be assumed that the perpetrator may also be a victim of sexual abuse*. This will influence the tone and follow up of this meeting. Due to the nature of this conversation, the parents may be defensive and less cooperative in an effort to protect their child from legal consequences and possibly to protect the adult abuser (if known) involved in the situation.

The **Sexual Abuse Response Team**, preferably the social worker team member, will first place a phone call to the minor / accused perpetrator's parents and inform them of the accusation that has been made (but not the name of the victim) and request to meet with the guardians / parents. If the parents refuse this meeting, the parents should be informed that regardless of their choice a report will be (likely already has been) made to DSS.

If another adult has abused their child then their child would likely enter the investigation process as a victim. It should also be emphasized to the parents that the purpose of the **Sexual Abuse Response Team** is to ensure the safety of all the children in sports and that uncooperativeness likely places many children at risk.

Assuming the parents are willing to participate in this meeting, the purpose of the conversation should be: (a) to discern if their child has experienced any sexual abuse or exposure to sexualized material, (b) to determine if there are settings where their child may have experimented with other children who need care, and (c) advise the parents wise next steps for them to take.

The **Sexual Abuse Response Team** should be careful not to make promises they cannot keep (i.e., "If you are honest with us, you will not get in any trouble."), but rather make honest statements, (i.e., "We are here to find out what happened so that we can get everyone the help that they need. If you are honest with us, then this process will be much easier on everyone.").

The **Sexual Abuse Response Team** interviewing member should again take notes on these conversations. If names are given that are not involved with ISCA (i.e., abuse that occurred at the YMCA, school, a camp setting, etc...), then those names should be reported to DSS or law enforcement as well.

At the end of this meeting, the **Sexual Abuse Response Team** should provide the family with the same information they provided after the meeting with the victim's family.

- If a DSS report will be filed and what to expect from that.
- Recommend any follow up that would assist the process and recovery.
- That the alleged perpetrator (child and family) will no longer be allowed to participate in any children or youth activities and will be asked to attend, with supervision, a different campus from the victim (at least until this matter is resolved).
- Provide a recommendation for child and/or family counseling appropriate for the situation. This counseling would not be provided by a n ISCA staff member or counselor affiliated with the ISCA in order to prevent a conflict of interest.

**Aftercare Responsibilities:**

The aftercare responsibilities are the same as in the case of adult to minor abuse .