Debrief Tips for Coaches

Prompts and Tips for coaches to engage their athletes following safe sport webinars

Once your athletes have participated in/watched the Athlete and Coach Safe Sport Expectations Webinar, hold an in-person or online debriefing session to discuss what they learned. This is your athletes' opportunity to ask questions directly to you to clarify anything that may not be fully clear. This is invaluable for an organization in gaining insight while building trust. It is recommended that more than one coach is present (as per the Rule of 2) so all athletes have options for communication purposes.

The following questions, grouped by topic, are meant as prompts to get the conversation going. A few tips:
- **Don't try to control the conversation too much.**
- **Allow your athletes time to think about what you are asking and provide their perspectives.**
- **Ask the questions in your own words.**
- **Ask other questions that arise in your mind.**
- **Be authentic, open and honest. This is your opportunity to make a real connection with your athletes.**
- **Respect everyone's opinion.**
- **Follow up on concerns.**

General

1. How much did you know about Safe Sport before the Athlete and Coach Safe Sport Expectations Webinar?
2. What did you learn from the Athlete and Coach Safe Sport Expectations Webinar that surprised you?
3. Is there anything that causes you concern?
4. Do you think we need to change anything we are currently doing to comply with safe sport expectations?
5. Do you feel like you know what to do if you experience anything that isn't aligned with safe sport?

Policy
1. Do you know we have policies to promote safe sport including the prevention of bullying, abuse, harassment, discrimination and maltreatment?
2. Do you understand why we have everyone sign a Code of Conduct?
3. Do you know about all our other safe sport policies?
4. Do you know what you would do if you had a concern about someone not abiding by a policy such as the Code of Conduct?
5. Do you have any questions about any policies? You can contact the club administrator if you prefer at **(add organizational contact details)**

Training

1. Did you complete CAC's free Safe Sport Participants Training?
2. Do you understand why we would like everyone to complete CAC's Safe Sport Participants Training? (Rationale - to get everyone on the same page - more knowledgeable and aware about safe sport).
3. For those of you who completed CAC's Safe Sport Participants Training, what did you learn that surprised you?
4. Do you have any further questions about that training or any other training? You can contact the club administrator if you prefer at **(add organizational contact details)**

Engagement

1. Do you feel like your concerns are heard by your coaches or our club administrators?
2. Do you think we need to do a better job having regular meetings like this to talk about your concerns?
3. How would you like to discuss your concerns with your coaches or club administrators?
4. Do you think we do a good job with communication?
5. How can we improve our communication process to ensure everyone is informed in a timely way?

Resources

1. Did you know there is an **Ottawa Safe Sport Toolkit** with resources to help you understand and navigate all aspects of Safe Sport?
2. Have you found it helpful? Why or why not?
3. Are we missing anything?

Other

1. Is there anything more we can do to make your experience with our coaches better?
2. If anyone would like to speak with us further, please feel free to reach out directly. Please include at least two coaches on any communication as per Rule of 2. Here's our contact info: **(add organizational contact details)**

COACHES: You may want to review the following prior to your Debrief:

- CAC's tips and leading practices connected to Rule of 2 and CAC's Rule of 2 Implementation Matrix
- **Safe Sport Tips for Athletes** and **Safe Sport Tips for Coaches** to clarify what's ok and not ok according to your policies
- Your organization's Safe Sport Policy Suite
- Ottawa Safe Sport Toolkit