



To: NJSIAA Member Schools
From: NJSIAA Executive Committee
Date: December 2025
RE: Advisory Notice – Safeguarding Student Athletes

The NJSIAA Executive Committee recognizes that issues involving abuse, hazing, and harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB) are handled at the school level, and that schools are responsible for complying with legal requirements and district policies.

However, the Executive Committee wants to take this opportunity to remind schools of the importance of ensuring that coaches and others who work with student-athletes are properly trained to identify signs of abuse, grooming, HIB and hazing. Physical education teachers also play an important role, as they interact with students daily and are well positioned to observe potential concerns, as do trainers. Timely reporting of suspected misconduct is also an essential component of student safety.

While many schools already utilize programs that reinforce best practices for preventing, identifying, and reporting inappropriate conduct, here are three NFHS courses that are available for free to all member schools:

- *Bullying, Hazing and Inappropriate Behaviors*, <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/bullying-hazing-and-inappropriate-behaviors>
- *Hazing Prevention for Students*, <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/hazing-prevention-for-students>
- *Protecting Students from Abuse*, <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/protecting-students-from-abuse>

The Executive Committee appreciates the continued commitment of NJSIAA member schools to the well-being of New Jersey's student-athletes. Reinforcing these expectations helps ensure consistent, proactive vigilance across all activities and programs.