



# WIN WITHOUT LOSSES



## Coach Safely Act Is Law

### About the Law:

Proposed in conjunction with the CoachSafely Foundation, the law is the first of its kind to address public concerns about sports injuries for a youth athlete population that is estimated to be **six times larger than all athletes above 14 years of age**. The implementing, enforcing and administering of the Coach Safely Act is the responsibility of the Alabama Department of Public Health.



- The 2017-18 Alabama Legislative session enacted HB9, called the Coach Safely Act.
- The law brings coaching standards to all the 14 and under aged athletes in Alabama.
- All community or association athletic personnel will now be required to take an annual injury prevention course.
- The law went into effect November 4, 2018.

### Advocated by:

The Coach Safely Act was advocated by Coach Bill Clark of UAB, Coach Nick Saban at the University of Alabama, Coach Willie Slater at Tuskegee University and Dr. Mike Goodlet, team physician to Auburn University.

### About the Coach Safely Course:

#### Led by:

The CoachSafely Foundation in partnership with Children's of Alabama, Encore Rehabilitation and ThreatAdvice. Provided at no cost to members of the Alabama Recreation and Parks Association in partnership with the Alabama Recreation and Parks Foundation.

#### Developed by:

The course was developed by the Andrews Research and Education Foundation, led by renowned sports medicine pioneer and surgeon Dr. James R. Andrews.

As per the law, the Coach Safely course covers prevention and injury recognition of:



- **Concussions**
- **Heat and Exertion Illnesses**
- **Trauma and Overuse**
- **Sudden Cardiac Arrest**
- **Emergency Action Plan**
- **Physical Conditioning**
- **Equipment Usage**

The course will also cover the physical and emotional characteristics of the youth athlete, information regarding physical and mental abuse awareness, and age appropriate training and tips for communicating with children and parents.



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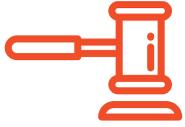


# CoachSafely and The Coach Safely Act : FAQ's



## What is The Coach Safely Act?

The Coach Safety Act, or Alabama Bill HB9, requires all community or association athletic personnel of youth athletes (14 or under) to complete an injury prevention and safety course to reduce the likelihood of a child being injured.



## Is The Coach Safely Law in effect?

The Coach Safety Act, under the supervision of the Alabama Department of Health, went into effect November 4, 2018.



## How can municipalities and sports associations be in compliance with the law?

Parks and recreation associations as well as sports associations must keep a record of each individual volunteer's course completion for the time they are volunteering. All volunteer coaches and personnel must complete the course within 30 days of becoming active with the park or association.

Coach Safely maintains a comprehensive registry of every enrolled coach's certification status. Certificates of completion are also available to each coach who completes the course.



## How often do athletic personnel need to take the course?

The course will need to be completed every year and not to pass the anniversary date of the volunteer coach becoming actively involved. All licensed and certified athletic trainers, doctors, nurses, first responders, and health care professionals with acute traumatic life support training and any AHSAA Coaches who have met current AHSAA REQUIRED Sports Medicine Safety Courses are not required to take the course.



## How are courses delivered?

The law does not require a specific method of delivery. The CoachSafely course can be taken online or as an on-site class. The curriculum of the course shall at minimum, provide information on the following subjects:

- (1) Emergency preparedness, planning, and rehearsal for traumatic injuries.
- (2) Concussions and head trauma.
- (3) Heat and extreme weather related injury familiarization.
- (4) Physical conditioning and training equipment usage.
- (5) Heart defects and abnormalities leading to sudden cardiac health death.
- (6) Sports equipment fitting.