



Respect in Sport FAQ

GENERAL

What is Respect in Sport?

RiS is an on-line training program for coaches and sport leaders. It is designed as a tool to assist in identifying and dealing with abuse, neglect, harassment, and bullying in sport.

Why is this being implemented?

Sask Sport Inc. believes that we should be proactive in making sport in our Province as safe as possible and welcoming for all participants. Respect in Sport helps us promote those values through this simple and convenient on-line tool. It is being implemented to provide a better sport environment for all participants.

Why is RiS mandatory?

Identifying and dealing with abuse, neglect, harassment and bullying in sport is very important and we believe ALL coaches and sport leaders must understand the fundamentals. In knowing that all of our coaches have had this essential training we will also be better prepared to mitigate liability both personal and organizational.

How is Respect in Sport implemented?

Respect in Sport is presented as an online curriculum and includes audio/visual presentations, quizzes and printable handouts.

What is Sask Sport's role in implementing the program?

Sask Sport is leading this initiative with the support of the Province of Saskatchewan.

What equipment is required to use Respect in Sport?

All that is required to complete the Respect in Sport curriculum is a Flash enabled computer, an Internet connection and speakers or a headset. Optional equipment includes a printer to print the handouts and/or your certificate of completion.

What if I don't have a personal computer?

Respect in Sport is available from any community computer - your work, library, a friend, band office, school. Your information will be confidential as you log on with your own password to access the program each time.

What if I don't have a high-speed connection?

The course is designed to be accessible from any PC using a dial-up or high-speed Internet. Once modules are downloaded, the user experience is the same at any speed. If you know you are on a slower connection, it is recommended you select the "Use Low Bandwidth" checkbox found directly before the Login boxes.

What if I don't know anything about computers?

Through extensive research and development, the program was designed, first and foremost, to be user friendly. It is extremely simple to use and has been implemented and tested by many sport organizations with little or no reported difficulties. There is also an on-line "Help" feature and a 1-800 support line available.

Is there a paper version of the program?

No, by design paper has been eliminated. Respect in Sport also gives you ongoing access to the course once you've completed it, as an online resource. There are some documents you can print if you want them but that is your choice.

Can I use a Mac/Apple product or hand held device (e.g. Blackberry or I Phone)?

Currently the programs will work on any PC or MAC using any of the standard browsers (Internet Explorer, Chrome, Safari, and Firefox). At this time mobile devices, iPads or touch Tablets can't be used.

NCCP

How does this relate to NCCP training?

Respect in Sport was designed to complement the existing NCCP programs.

How is this different than the making ethical decisions NCCP module?

The course is quite different and far more specific in dealing with the key issues of abuse, neglect, bullying and harassment. Again, it fully complements the making ethical decisions NCCP module.

How does this affect my certification requirements?

You will be certified in Respect in Sport separately and your sport organization will track that separately. However, it will assist you in maintaining your certified status in the new NCCP as you will be able to use this training towards Professional Development points.

Can I use Respect in Sport towards NCCP Professional Development points?

Yes. Based on the current NCCP PD policy/model it appears 3 points would be granted (3 hours x 1 point per hour).

How this is different from the new NCCP PD module called Empower+?

The material in the new Empower+ module is excellent as well and very similar to the Respect in Sport content but delivered in a face to face facilitated workshop format. Coaches who take the Empower+ workshop will get equivalent credit to Respect in Sport and will not need to take both.

COACH

As a coach I am being asked to do another course?

RiS really is one of the most important courses you'll take as a person who is responsible for teaching and training athletes. With this training you should feel more confident in dealing with issues relating to abuse, neglect, bullying and harassment and hopefully feel much more secure in this often overlooked area. This course will protect you and the athletes in your care and hopefully make you feel more comfortable in your leadership role.

What if I'm a hockey coach and have taken the Speak Out program?

Similar to the NCCP Empower+, Sask Sport will recognize the Speak Out training delivered by Hockey Canada as an equivalent to the Respect in Sport training.

How long is the course?

It's a total of three hours but its split into 6 simple half hour modules.

Do I have to do it all at once?

The program allows you to complete a section within a module and knows where you left off in order to bring you back to that point when next you sign-in again.

What is the deadline?

Each PSGB will have the flexibility to determine their deadline date to best coincide with their season(s) of sport. Please contact your PSGB for the timeline to complete the RiS course.

How much does it cost?

It is free for users. Sask Sport Inc. believes so strongly in this program and the values it promotes, that the costs will be absorbed for all coaches and other sport leaders in our province.

Do I have to take the course every year?

No. You take the 3-hour course in year one and you'll get certified. In subsequent years you will be able to access the program as an on-line resource. If there becomes a major change or additions to the program in the future a refresher course may be required. Similar to NCCP training workshops once you've taken it you have it.

What are the benefits for a coach?

- It will help you better understand the responsibilities, reward and respect that come with being a coach.
- It will make you more confident in identifying and dealing with abuse, neglect, bullying and harassment.
- It will help create a safer and more respectful environment for you, other coaches and the athletes in your care.
- As a more knowledgeable coach, it will also better mitigate your own personal liability associated with this very volatile area within sport.

What if I coach more than one sport?

RiS covers all sports within Saskatchewan and your certification is good across the board. You will only have to complete the course once. Inside the program on your profile page, you have the ability to add additional sports to your profile. This is an important step as it allows each PSGB you are involved with to access your certification details.

Important Note for individuals involved with Hockey Saskatchewan and Gymnastics Canada

If you are involved with Gymnastics Canada or Hockey Saskatchewan, you will access those specific versions of Respect in Sport. Sask Sport will still absorb the costs of the program and if you coach additional sports, you may “Port Your Certification” into the Sask Sport version of the program. See the HELP files to learn about Porting Your Certificate.

What happens if I don't do the program?

If you decide not to take the course, you will not be eligible to coach.

Why do I have to take this course if I am coaching adults?

Values are values. Whether you are coaching youth or adults the issues of abuse, neglect, bullying and harassment are the same.

I'm just helping out; I'm not the head coach. Why should I have to take the course too?

Anyone who is in a leadership position with our youth or adults and involved in sport need to have this knowledge in order to ensure a safer and more respectful environment and to become more confident in identifying and dealing with abuse, neglect, bullying and harassment.

Great idea but many of my behaviour challenges come from parents. Is there a program for sport parents too?

A program is available to sport that is entitled Respect in Sport for Parents. Parents play a key role in sport as we all know and if the sport feels this is needed they can access Respect in Sport Parent Program at their cost. Sask Sport's provincial license does not include the Parent program.

PSGBs

How can I implement RiS?

Become acquainted with the RiS materials and information to help with understanding, promotion and the implementation. Generate awareness to coaches, member clubs, leagues and teams. Govern the program to ensure all coaches in your sport on the field of play have taken the course by the required PSGB deadline.

What are the benefits for a PSGB?

By implementing the program PSGBs are making a commitment to the safety of your athletes. RiS provides coaches with the tools to deal with legal and moral responsibilities making them less vulnerable and more confident in dealing with sensitive issues. It helps your organization in liability reduction as a risk management tool.

The benefits include:

- liability reduction
- help to create a sport specific database
- coach retention
- consistent training for coaches across all sports

How do athletes benefit?

Respect in Sport can help provide a safer, more welcoming sport environment where respect is paramount. It will make enjoyment levels go up and hopefully keep our participants involved in sport.

How do we enforce the mandatory requirement?

It will be the PSGBs responsibility to promote and oversee compliance with the requirement for coaches on the field of play to have completed the RiS certification. The most important first step will be for PSGBs to adopt a provincial policy that outlines the purpose, scope, conditions, etc. specific to your sport. It will be important to gain the cooperation and support of your clubs, leagues and teams to assist in educating, communicating and enforcing your policy. To assist in compliance and monitoring, it would be beneficial to revise registration forms to enable coaches to include their RiS certificate number.

How will I know which coaches have completed the course? Who will track?

The database will track all registrants on a per sport basis. Each sport will have administrative access to their sport's certification database and be able to verify user certification. The database is simple to manage and training will be available on how to use it.