



Across the country, at every level of every sport, participants expect a safe and positive environment.

In doing our part, over the past three years, we have had recommended Safe Sport standards for coaches, persons responsible and officials at Scotia Series competitions. These are in place to meet federal and provincial government requirements and most importantly, so that **everyone has the right to feel safe and to participate in an accessible and inclusive sport environment free from maltreatment, regardless of**

**age, ancestry, colour, race, citizenship, ethnic origin, place of origin, language, creed, religion, athletic potential, disability, family status, marital status, gender identity, gender expression, sex and sexual orientation.**

In 2022, all officials were required to meet all Safe Sport standards and we are pleased to report that we had 100% compliance! We expect the same for 2023!

This year and moving forward, we will support and guide coaches and persons responsible for junior athletes at our competitions to meet their safe sport standards. As such, we are following up with those entries at a Scotia Series competition whose coach/person responsible is not listed **or** does not have all necessary standards.

Implementing standards to help foster this can be challenging and be met with “a few bumps” along the way. Thank you for your patience and support during this vital implementation process.

***If you are an adult athlete who coaches yourself and no other students at competitions, please let us know, and you can skip the rest of this email.***

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**If you are the person responsible (parent/guardian) supporting a junior athlete without a coach at a Scotia Series Competition, we ask that you complete specific safe sport training. The rationale for this is that, as the person responsible for the junior athlete, you may be acting in a leadership capacity at the competition; more than a parent/guardian cheering from the stands. You may be engaging with other athletes, coaches, competition management and even an official. In general terms, this is known as the “field of play”. Every sport leader in the “field of play” must have safe sport training.**

The training we are asking you to take is self-directed and consists of two parts: Safe Sport Training and Concussion Training. Listed below, for your convenience, are the two online courses from which you can choose to take. Please note courses offered through CAC are free of charge.

Safe Sport Training:

- [CAC Safe Sport Training | CAC \(coach.ca\)](#) **OR** Equestrian Canada's (EC) Fostering Healthy Environments training.

Concussion Training

- [NCCP Making Head Way in Sport | CAC \(coach.ca\)](#) **OR** Equestrian Canada's (EC) Concussion training.
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***If you are a coach supporting athletes participating at a Scotia Series competition/class, you are required to take the Safe Sport and concussion Training, along with a Screening Check. For your convenience, you can choose between two options, the NS Dept. of Community Services Child Abuse Register, which is free of charge:***

- [Apply for a Child Abuse Register search - Government of Nova Scotia](#) **OR**

You can have a Criminal Records Check with Vulnerable Sector completed at your local RCMP/Municipal Police Detachment.

If you were born before 1986, you'll need the Criminal Records Check with Vulnerable Sector (which requires a letter from Equestrian NS). If you were born after 1986, you only need the criminal Records Check.

If you need help with any of this, we are here for you! You can give us a call to reset your password or ask questions. We can also schedule a Zoom session to guide you through accessing the requirements, or we can arrange a time to meet in person at the office to provide you a space to complete the requirements.

Lauren: 1-800-263-2410 or [nsefmembership@sportnovascotia.ca](mailto:nsefmembership@sportnovascotia.ca)

Charlotte: [nsefservices@sportnovascotia.ca](mailto:nsefservices@sportnovascotia.ca)

**Thank you for helping us foster a safe and positive sport environment.  
Together, we make the equestrian sport better for everyone.**