

## What Is Your Role In Reporting Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect?

No coach wants to think about dealing with child abuse or neglect issues. You may likely never face this issue, but we want to prepare you to recognize child abuse signs and the steps for reporting, if ever needed.

The Ohio Revised Code does not require 4-H club advisors and adult volunteers to report cases of suspected child abuse. However, the Ohio University Extension system strongly encourages you, and all other 4-H club advisors and adult volunteers to [Report Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Cases](#) to the proper authorities (Children's Services, County Dept. of Human Services or Municipal or County Peace Officer).

Ohio Law provides immunity, from civil and criminal liability, for anyone reporting suspected child abuse or participating in a judicial proceeding resulting from such reports. We encourage you to do your part in assuring children can grow and learn in a safe and healthy environment. 4-H resources available for you to review and use include "A 4-H Pledge - Keeping Youth Safe" video available from your County 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator and [Recognizing Child Abuse and Neglect](#), Ohio 4-H Volunteer Fact Sheet #32.

***Look out for your players -  
report suspected child  
abuse.***