

Coaching and Volunteers – HBB Coaching Background Check Policy

ALL coaches and assistants must have current background checks on file with the league per the new PA State Law (Act 153) which went into effect July 1, 2015, as since amended.

In that regard, coaches or assistant coaches (defined as having your name listed on a team webpage in either capacity), and any other team volunteers/parents who have regular direct contact with the players **MUST** do #1 below **AND EITHER** #2a **OR** #2b below.

1. Complete both a PATCH background check AND a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History clearance. Protect Youth Sports (PYS) will administer both of these clearances and coaches can complete those checks by using the following online link: <https://opportunities.averity.com/Application.aspx?oid=16355>

IMPORTANT: Once you pay for the clearances through Protect Youth Sports, you are NOT DONE YET. You will be sent a follow up email that contains a payment code for your Child Abuse Clearance. You MUST then go to the Child Abuse Clearance website (<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>) complete the online forms, and use the payment code to complete the clearance process. If you do not follow through on the Child Abuse Clearance website and use the payment code you will not get your Child Abuse Clearance and you will not be cleared to coach until you do so.

Thanks to the recent legislation by Gov. Wolf, the cost of the service has been reduced substantially. When done through Protect Youth Sports the cost is \$20 payable via credit card only. Please note that the cost includes both PATCH and Child Abuse Clearances. There is no option available to get either one or the other individually. If you need to obtain a Child Abuse Clearance only, here is the link. <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>

NOTE: If you are already in possession of either a current valid PYS, PATCH clearance or Child Abuse Clearance from the 2015 Spring Intramural or Travel Season, we will accept those documents for the Fall Ball Season. Any clearance must be dated LATER than October 31, 2014 for it to be accepted by the league as valid. FOR SECURITY AND PRIVACY REASONS, PLEASE DO NOT MAIL PAPER CLEARANCES TO THE LEAGUE. SCAN AND EMAIL THEM TO COMPLIANCEOFFICER@HARLEYSVILLEBASEBALL.ORG.

2a. If you have been a resident of the Commonwealth of PA for AT LEAST the past 10 YEARS, complete, sign and submit to HBB the “FBI Disclosure Statement for Volunteers” form which can be downloaded and printed out from the “Available for Download” Section of our website, www.harleysvillebaseball.org, OR.....

2b. If you have **NOT** been a resident of the Commonwealth of PA for AT LEAST the past 10 YEARS, you will be required in accordance with PA Law Act 153 to get an FBI federal background clearance (Criminal History Record Information (CHRI)) which involves fingerprinting. There are several locations (including Souderton Area High School – see <http://www.soudertonsd.org/community/fingerprinting/>) in our vicinity that provide this service – the cost is \$27. More information on how to register and get the clearance done can be found at the following link: [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/background_checks_\(act_114\)/7493/federal_criminal_history_background_checks/601327](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/background_checks_(act_114)/7493/federal_criminal_history_background_checks/601327)

Please note that PA State Law (Act 153) requires that these clearances be obtained only ONCE EVERY THREE YEARS. Therefore, when you obtain your new clearances for the Fall Season, you will be covered until 3 years from the date of your clearances. If you are able to provide current PATCH or Child Abuse clearances that are dated AFTER October 31, 2014, we will accept those as well.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact HBB Compliance Officer Karl Janetka at complianceofficer@harleysvillebaseball.org.