



February 6, 2018

Dear Lady Vipers Lacrosse Families-

In light of recent events in the news, we want to ensure that your child is safe and that we have clear communications channels in place should you have any concerns for her or others' well-being. To that end, we wanted to confirm all the steps Lady Vipers Lacrosse already has taken and share further steps we will be taking to ensure the highest levels of player safety. We try to treat every player as though they were our own child. Should you ever have a concern about the well-being or safety of yours or any other player, please let us know immediately.

STEPS COMPLETED: All coaches and board members have passed the Leander ISD Volunteer background checks that are required each school year (due on 10/31). In addition, our high school/middle school coaches have been fingerprinted and have passed a more stringent level of background checks required of LISD teachers and coaches. The current Player & Parent Code of Conduct that you signed during registration features two sections on Respect and Leadership that explicitly prohibit harassment, hazing and bullying in any form, as well as fighting or excessive displays of anger or frustration.

FURTHER STEPS WE ARE TAKING: We are implementing the following additional steps to ensure the highest levels of player safety in our program:

- Completing a second background screening process recommended by US Lacrosse through NCSI (National Center for Safety Initiatives) for all board members, volunteer and paid coaches. This will supplement the Leander ISD process already in place.
- Requiring all volunteers who interact with our players to show proof of clearance from the Leander ISD Volunteer program.
- A revised Player & Parent Code of Conduct which includes a new section specifically on Player Safety and all the channels available to raise any and all concerns related to player safety.
- Stating our intent to sustain an 'open door policy' where anyone with player safety concerns can express them to any of our coaches or board members and know it will be addressed without fear of retribution.

As always, we strive for continuous improvement and welcome your feedback and suggestions. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any ideas or suggestions you have. Thanks for helping us to build one of the premier lacrosse programs in central Texas!

Sincerely,

The Lady Vipers Lacrosse Board
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Vandegrift Lacrosse Club Booster Organization

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