

Approved & Unapproved Match Activities

Best Practice Resources – Leadership and Oversight

Please refer to your governing board and/or legal counsel for support interpreting your organization's liability policy. This sample document can be modified to fit the context of your specific mentoring program.

(Insert name) mentoring program operates under the coverage of *(insert name of insurance provider)*. Our program policy covers various group activities and organizational events, as well as liability insurance for adults and youth engaged in approved program activities. The following are some examples of match activities that are protected by the organization's extended liability coverage.

- Swimming * where a trained lifeguard is on duty
- Hiking * on a well-maintained, public trail
- Fishing * with proper safety equipment (life vest)
- Going to the gym
- Skateboarding * with proper safety equipment (helmet and padding)
- Biking * with proper safety equipment (helmet)
- Running
- Cooking
- Playing music
- ATV/ 4-wheeling
- Frisbee
- Golf
- Ice skating
- Bowling
- Snow shoeing
- Camping

Examples of higher-risk activities that are not protected by the organization's extended liability coverage include:

- Swimming in a dangerous and/or unprotected area where a trained lifeguard is not on duty
- Downhill skiing, snowboarding or mountain biking
- Rock-climbing
- Trampoline
- Kayaking
- Whitewater rafting
- Dirt bike, or motorcycle riding
- Horseback riding
- Motor boating
- Out of town travel
- Hunting

This is not an exhaustive list of approved and unapproved match activities. Mentors should employ discretion and common sense when selecting appropriate match activities with their mentee. If a mentor is unclear about the safety or appropriateness of an activity he or she should be instructed to contact his/her mentor coordinator for guidance. When a youth and mentor plan to leave the program's geographic region or engage in a match activity that poses a higher potential of inherent risk, like those listed above, the mentor must secure guardian consent and return the completed consent waiver to the program prior to engagement in the activity. The mentor should also keep a copy of the form on hand while participating in the activity. See sample waiver below.

Sample Parental/ Guardian Consent & Liability Waiver for Non-Program Activities

I hereby provide consent for (name of child) _____'s participation in _____ activity with his/her mentor on (date) _____ from (start time) _____ to (end time) _____. I understand that my child's participation in this activity is voluntary and that there may be inherent risks involved in this activity for which (*insert the name of mentoring program*) assumes no liability for injuries or accidents. I understand that (*insert name of the mentoring program*) provides limited liability coverage for my child and his/her mentor's voluntary participation in activities that are established by the program. I understand that the activity described above is not established by the mentoring program and therefore as the parent or legal guardian, I assume all liability.

Parent/Guardian Name

Signature

Date