

Youth & At Risk Protection Frequently asked Questions

What determines if a one-time club event falls under Track 1 compliance, and why is parental presence such a critical factor in evaluating youth protection risk?

Where Clubs must follow the Club Eligibility Requirement Flow Chart found on the District 5450 website. The risk increases when parental presence can compromise accidentally or due to an emergency etc. At its core, the primary distinction comes down to parental presence: if a parent or legal guardian is continuously present and actively supervising their minor child at all times—ensuring there is never a moment where the adult and youth are separated without direct parental oversight—the dynamic changes entirely, eliminating the risk of unsupervised one-on-one interaction and the compliance triggers that come with it. This might be an example of Track 1 if your club has one time event.

What compliance steps should a club take if they have no scheduled youth or at-risk activities throughout the entire year and any contact with minors would be purely accidental, rare, and by chance?

If a club absolutely does nothing with at risk population all year long and chances being around at risk populations are clearly by chance, accidental and out of the blue then the risk is much lower. A club that is doing absolutely nothing with at risk populations, then they can review the RI and District 5450 Policy and sign the attestation form.

What compliance track and rules apply if your club works with specialized programs like RYLA, Interact, or Youth Exchange?

If your club is working with any of the specialized programs (i.e., RYLA, Interact, Youth Exchange) then a club is working from Track 2 automatically, and in addition must comply with the specialized programs' rules and procedures—where the risk goes up significantly just due to the frequency, significance of the program(s)

If we have people who meet more than once with anyone under the age of 18, even if there are more than one adult present, must they complete Track 2 certification?

***Yes.** Under youth protection guidelines, recurring or frequent contact (meeting more than once) with minors triggers **Track 2** requirements. The presence of multiple adults does **not** create an exemption or substitute for compliance certification.*

Is it true that certification is not required if more than 1 adult was always present during interactions with youth?

***No, that is entirely false.** This is a dangerous and common misconception. The "two-adult rule" (ensuring at least two adults are always present to protect both the youth and the volunteers) is a risk-management best practice, not a replacement for background checks and training. Anyone engaging in frequent, reoccurring, or significant contact with youth must complete the necessary screening and certification.*

If one of our members is our Interact/Rotaract mentor and goes to their meetings, does that person need to do Track 1 or Track 2?

***Track 2.** Mentoring or regularly attending Interact or Rotaract meetings constitutes frequent, ongoing, and significant contact with youth/young adults. Because it is a reoccurring program commitment, it*

*falls squarely under **Track 2**, which requires completing the youth awareness tutorial, quiz, and a background check.*

If a member attends a regularly scheduled Interact/Rotaract meeting, do they not need to complete any track training at all?

False. *If a member is regularly or repeatedly attending scheduled Interact or Rotaract meetings, they are participating in a high-contact youth program and must complete **Track 2** requirements.*

- **The only exception** would be a truly incidental, one-off, or completely isolated drop-in where no ongoing pattern of contact is established (which maps to Track 1 / infrequent contact rules). However, regular attendance at structured youth club meetings establishes a recurring pattern that mandates full Track 2 compliance.

Remember it about Risk management as well as protecting our at risk populations that we serve. The guidelines are there to protect at risk population but it is also in place to protect clubs, and its members by reducing the risk. By implementing a formal youth and at risk protection training we can reduce abuse risks by up to 90%. We do not want to become a statistic like other organization we know have been in the news.

My club does nothing with at risk population except we put on a significant 1 x Duck Derby or Easter egg Hunt each year. What track do we need to follow?

The word “Significant” is the key word and place a club on Track 2

My club reads to youth one on one in the quiet hall of a school during the day when class is going on. What track should we follow?

The primary distinction comes down to parental presence: if a parent or legal guardian is not continuously present and actively supervising their minor child at all times—ensuring there is never a moment where the adult and youth are separated without direct parental oversight—the dynamic changes entirely, increasing the risk and triggers Track 2 compliance. In addition, clubs need to practice 2-3 deep leadership. Two-Deep Leadership (or the Two-Deep Rule) Its core principle is that no youth should ever be left alone one-on-one with a single adult. By requiring a minimum of two (or three) adults to be present with a youth, organizations create a safeguard that protects both the minors from risk and the adult volunteers from isolated situations or false allegations. A suggestion might be to have two adult readers and youth in the same hall directly across from each other. The best practice is not a replacement for background checks and training.