



Scenario #1 – Read this to your athletes:

One of your teammates is constantly picking on you. They make mean jokes about you and have started to intentionally try to hurt you during lessons. This person is really popular on the team, and sometimes you feel so sad about it that you don't want to go to the club.

Discussion Questions:

What do you do?

Kids might say that they would tell someone or try and stand up to the bully.

>Safe Sport says: Speak up! Tell someone you trust. That might be your coach, parent, or friend. Ask them to help you come up with a plan to fix the situation.

How would you feel if you weren't the target of the bullying but knew this was going on?

Kids might say that they feel mad, embarrassed, or scared.

>Safe Sport says: It makes us sad when our teammates are being mean and bullying each other. Be a friend to the person being bullied and tell an adult.

Who needs to know that this is going on? What do you hope that they will do?

Kids might say that the coach and parents need to know what's going on.

>Safe Sport says: The coach needs to know that this is going on in order to implement the anti-bullying plan.

Bonus Question:

What do you do if the person you tell doesn't think this is a big deal?

Kids might say that they would do nothing or find someone else to talk to.

>Safe Sport says: be persistent! If the first person you tell doesn't take it seriously, find someone who does. Remember, it's the coach's job to take care of the members of the club, and he/she should be able to do something about it.

Wrap It Up:

What kind of club do we want to be?

Ask your athletes to tell you what your club values are (hard work, positivity, etc.).

How do we want to treat the other members of our club?

Examples: cheer for each other, work hard, encourage each other in practice, etc.

Scenario #2: Read this to your athletes:

Bosco walks up to Frank in the locker room and says,
“Nobody likes you. I wish you weren’t on our team.”

Discussion Questions:

How would you feel if you were Frank?

Kids might say that they would feel sad, rejected, and scared, or that he/she hopes that someone would stand up for him/her.

>Safe Sport says: Validate the kids’ feelings. It’s normal to feel sad, mad, or confused about what to do.

How would you feel if you heard this?

Kids might say they feel mad, embarrassed, or scared.

If you heard this, what should you do?

Kids might say they should step in and say something to Bosco or tell an adult.

>Safe Sport says: A common approach is I.C.E. = Interrupt the bully, Compliment the target, and help him Escape.

Who needs to know this is going on? What do you hope they will do?

Kids might say the coach and the parents of both Bosco and Frank need to know about the incident.

>Safe Sport says: The coach needs to know, in order to implement the club’s anti-bullying plan.

Bonus Question:

What do you do if you hear this in the locker room at a tournament, and Bosco and Frank are from another club?

Kids might say they would do nothing. Others might say they would interrupt the situation and talk to Frank. Still others might say the right thing to do is tell an adult.

>Safe Sport says: Trust your instincts! Use the I.C.E. approach and/or go tell your coach or a referee. If you can tell what club they are from, share that info with whomever you tell.

Wrap It Up:

What kind of team do we want to be?

Ask your fencers to tell you what your club values are (hard work, positivity, etc.).

How do we want to treat the other members of our club?

Examples: cheer for each other, work hard, encourage each other in practice, etc.

**For coaches: review your team’s anti-bullying plan and share how you would respond to this scenario with your fencers.

***For Coaches: review your club's anti-bullying plan and share how you would respond to this scenario with your athletes. For questions about implementing an anti-bullying plan, contact USA Fencing's Safe Sport Coordinator at (719) 866-2616.**