



## Child Protection in Sport Unit

### Parents in Sport

Parents play a pivotal role in encouraging and supporting their child's participation, success and fun when playing sport.

Therefore, it's essential that sports clubs communicate regularly with parents so that both coach and parent work towards the same goals.

To raise awareness of this, in October we're marking **Parents in Sport Week**, which focuses on the role of the sporting parent in helping young people reach their full potential.

We've also created **information pages for parents** to see what they can do to best support their child in sport.

#### **The importance of parents in sport**

Most parents – through their support, encouragement and understanding – help their children have fun and reach their potential in their chosen sport.

Unfortunately, certain types of involvement and behaviours from parents can take away from a child's experience and enjoyment.

Poor spectator behaviour can have a huge impact on the performance and concentration of the young athletes competing. It may even affect their desire to continue with sport.

#### **The role of sports organisations**

Sports organisations need to raise awareness with their coaches of the crucial role a parent has in helping a child reach their full potential.

To assist in this, we've produced a number of resources for clubs to use when providing messages to parents, as well as to their own coaches.

#### **Parents in Sport Week**

We're also asking sports organisations to give their support to **Parents in Sport Week**, which takes place from 3 to 9 October 2016.

#### **Parents are great for sport**

Everyone involved in sport for young people should be committed to ensuring that children's participation is supported.