# **Chapter 3: Case Studies**

## **Promoting Safe Practices**

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# Case Study 1

Half an hour before game time, the visiting team’s coach notices an elevated steel sewer cover in the middle of the soccer field. The coach meets with the home team’s coach to discuss the safety hazard. The home coach states that the home team has played three games on the field with no issue. The visiting coach then expresses his concerns to the head game official for the game. The official informs the coach that he places four large pylons around the sewer cover to help protect the players. He also informs the coach that he has officiated several games on this field with no player injuries and no complaints from coaches, players, or parents.

***Questions***

1. After being reassured by the home coach and the head official, should the visiting coach allow his players to compete on this field? Why or why not?
2. Having no other space to play in and knowing that his team would forfeit the game if he refuses to let them play, what should the coach recommend to his players, their parents, the officials, and the home team’s coaches?
3. Legally, who would be at fault if a player from either team was injured by this steel cover during game play, and why?
4. Explain how the field space could be modified to play the game safely. Remember, the object is in the middle of the field.
5. Should the league convener be called in order to reschedule the game on another field? Explain your thoughts.
6. What other alternatives might the visiting coach have?

# Case Study 2

As Ms. Hayden addresses her grade 7 physical education class for the first time in September, she notices that one of her female students has a nose ring. After class, Ms. Hayden calls the student aside to explain the risks (both to herself and to her classmates) associated with wearing jewelry during physical activity. The student becomes defensive and belligerent and claims that the nose ring will never come out: “It is part of my body, and my body is my space.”

***Questions***

1. What safety guidelines are offered by the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association concerning the wearing of jewelry during school-based physical activities (e.g., physical education classes, school sports, active school trips)?
2. How can the teacher in this case study address the safety hazard posed by the nose ring in order to make PE safe for the student in question and her classmates?
3. Does the student have a right to keep the nose ring in during PE? Explain.
4. How does exposed or unexposed jewelry on an individual pose a danger to that student and others during physical activity?