

5.

Legal issues / obligatory supervision

Obligatory supervision

Youth group leaders assume a contractual obligatory supervision!

This means that: Through an appropriate supervision, children and youngsters shall **be protected** from **damage and danger** and shall not harm other people (third parties).

Group leaders have to:

- **get informed** about possible risks
- **point** these risks **out** to children / youngsters
- **check**, if rules and prohibitions are respected
- **caution** if rules and prohibitions are not respected
- **step in**, that means take measures to make them comply with the rules

but should only act according to the pedagogical basic standards

- encourage (instead of prohibiting)
- propose (instead of giving orders)
- motivate (instead of instructing)
- strengthen (instead of criticizing)

Concerning the obligatory supervision, the following criteria have to be considered:

- The person of the child / youngster
Age, stage of development (physical, mental), behavioural disorders, diseases ...
- The group
Size and dynamics of the group
Period of the existence of the group
- Nature of the activity
Nature of the games, danger of the play equipment
Swimming, hiking, bicycle tour, etc.
- Local environment
Proximity to potential hazards, like for example main roads, waters
Closed or open grounds
- Person of the group leader
Knowledge, capacities, skills
Pedagogical experience
Reasonableness