Background

The amalgamated experiences of two Bystanders (A and B) are at the centre of the diagram below. In all, at least 17 attempts to report abuse by a primary coach in their environment were made by a number of bystanders (athletes, parents, sport organization staff). This illustrates how self-regulation of the sport sector can allow abuse, harmful conditions and missed opportunities for intervention to persist.

• Aggressive and inappropriate coaching behaviour was normalized because the coach was viewed as "renowned", creating a power imbalance where the coach controlled the environment and sport opportunity

- Fear of retribution and negative impacts on career led to reluctance to report
- The predatory act of grooming went unchecked making individuals vulnerable to abusive behavior

ystem conditions that impeded

- No formal reporting process
- No third party investigative process
- No formal sanctions

Participants remained at risk or left
Careers of bystanders who reported

 Careers of bystanders who reported were negatively impacted

- Abusive coaches stayed in the system
- Sport organizations remain at risk



Alleged incidents of sexual and physical abuse by coaches which pre-date the experiences of Bystanders A and B.

Coaches were moved to different programs within the organizations and/or continued at the community sport level.

Coaches were reinstated into the previous roles they were originally removed from in the organizations.

