

# MAAP POLICIES

EFFECTIVE  
JANUARY 1, 2023



Recognizing, Reducing, and Responding to Abuse in Sport

# Table of Contents

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>2</b>
Authority .....	2
<b>DEFINITIONS</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>PART I EDUCATION &amp; TRAINING POLICY</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>PART II REQUIRED POLICIES FOR ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS POLICY</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>MEETINGS AND TRAINING SESSIONS POLICY</b> ....	<b>9</b>
<b>ATHLETIC TRAINING MODALITIES, MASSAGES, AND RUBDOWNS POLICY</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS POLICY</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS POLICY</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>TRANSPORTATION POLICY</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>LODGING POLICY</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>PART III RECOMMENDED POLICIES FOR KEEPING YOUNG ATHLETES SAFE</b> .....	<b>16</b>
<b>APPENDIX</b> .....	<b>17</b>
ORGANIZATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATION & TRAINING AND PREVENTION POLICIES.....	17

# INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Center for SafeSport (the Center) and United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) are committed to building a sport community where Participants can work and learn together in an atmosphere free of emotional, physical, and sexual misconduct. Throughout this document the most commonly used terms are defined in the Definition section below.

## Authority

The *Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017* authorizes the Center to develop training and policies to prevent abuse—including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse— within the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Movement. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a) (1). Federal law requires that, at a minimum, USEF must offer and give consistent training related to the prevention of child abuse: (1) to all adult members who are in regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors and (2) subject to parental consent, to members who are minors. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(2)(E). Federal law requires that these policies contain reasonable procedures to limit unobservable and uninterrupted one-on-one interactions between an amateur athlete, who is a minor, and an adult, who is not the minor’s legal guardian, at facilities under the jurisdiction of organizations within the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Movement. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(2)(C).

## What is the MAAPP?

To that end, the Center has developed the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP). The MAAPP is a collection of proactive prevention and training policies for the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Movement. It has three primary components:

1. An Education & Training Policy that requires training for certain Adult Participants within the sport;
2. Required Prevention Policies, focused on limiting one-on-one interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes, that USEF and other youth serving sports associations must implement to prevent abuse; and
3. Recommended Prevention Policies.

The Center developed the MAAPP to assist National Governing Bodies (NGBs) like USEF, and other sports organizations to whom these policies apply in meeting their obligations under federal law (note: implementing these policies does not guarantee that an organization or individual fully complies with federal law or all applicable legal obligations). These policies are available to all Participants and parents/guardians of minor athletes.

## **What is the focus of the MAAPP?**

The MAAPP focuses on just two important aspects of a much larger comprehensive abuse prevention strategy. These policies address training requirements and limiting one-on-one interactions between adults and minor athletes. These policies are intended to be enforceable and reasonable, acknowledging, for example, that when a 17-year-old athlete turns 18, they become an adult athlete, and a complete prohibition of one-on-one interactions may not be necessary or practical. Additionally, there may be other instances when one-on-one interactions could occur, and in those cases, these policies provide strategies so parents/guardians can provide informed consent if they choose to allow a permitted interaction.

The Center and USEF recommend that parents first complete training on abuse prevention to be informed about potential boundary violations and concerns before consenting to the interaction.

The MAAPP in no way can guarantee athlete safety in all circumstances, especially when the policies are not fully implemented, followed, or monitored. These policies are not comprehensive of all prevention strategies, nor are they intended to be. These policies should be implemented alongside the SafeSport Code. Additionally, other resources are available that may assist organizations in improving athlete safety.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Saul, J., & Audage, N.C. (2007). Preventing Child Sexual Abuse Within Youth-Servicing Organization: Getting Started on Policies and Procedures. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.  
Canadian Centre for Child Protection. (2014). Child Sexual Abuse: It Is Your Business. Winnipeg, Manitoba: Canadian Centre for Child Protection.  
The Australian Royal Commission Into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. (2017). Final Report.

# DEFINITIONS

**Adult Participant:** Any adult (18 years of age or older) who is<sup>2</sup>:

- b. A USEF Senior Active member;
- c. An employee or board member of USEF;
- d. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USEF;
- e. Authorized, approved, or appointed by USEF or its Recognized Affiliates to have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes (e.g. Licensed Officials, USEF Team Chefs d'Equipe, USEF Team Technical Advisors/Coaches, USEF Team Vets).

**Amateur Athlete:** Any athlete who is actively engaged in equestrian competition.

**Authority:** When one person's position over another person is such that, based on the totality of the circumstances, they have the power or right to direct, control, give orders to, or make decisions for that person. Also see the Power Imbalance definition in the SafeSport Code.

*Note: USEF Licensed Officials, USEF Team Chefs d'Equipe, and USEF Technical Advisors fall under this definition.*

**Close-in-Age Exception:** An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant does not have authority over a Minor Athlete and is not more than four years older than the Minor Athlete (e.g., a 19-year-old and a 16-year-old).

*Note: This exception only applies within the prevention policies and not regarding conduct defined in the SafeSport Code.*

**Dual Relationships:** An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant has a dual role or relationship with a Minor Athlete and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent at least annually authorizing the exception.

**In-Program Contact:** Any contact (including communications, interactions, or activities) between an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) related to participation in sport.

---

<sup>2</sup> This also includes the following individuals covered under the USEF Safe Sport Policy, who: (a) currently is, or was at the time of a possible Safe Sport violation, within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USEF or who is seeking to be within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USEF (e.g., through application for membership, license holder, employee), (b) is an Athlete or USEF Designee, or (c) a participant or attendee of a USEF Licensed Competition or sanctioned event, including team staff, medical or paramedical personnel, administrator, official, groom, or other athlete support personnel, employee, or volunteer.

*Examples of In-Program Contact include, but are not limited to: competition, practices, camps/clinics, training/instructional sessions, pre/post competition meals or outings, team travel, review of competition footage, team- or sport-related relationship building activities, celebrations, award ceremonies, team- or sport-related fundraising or community service, sport education, competition site visits and course walks.*

**Minor Athlete:** An Amateur Athlete under 18 years of age who participates in, or participated within the previous 12 months in, an event, program, activity, or competition that is part of, or partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USEF.

**Partial or Full Jurisdiction:** Includes any sanctioned event (including all travel and lodging in connection with the event) by USEF, or any facility that USEF owns, leases, or rents for practice, training, or competition. For clarification, the jurisdiction exists during the time that the practice, training, or competition occurs.

**National Governing Body (NGB):** A U.S. Olympic National Governing Body, Pan American Sport Organization, or Paralympic Sport Organization recognized by the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. §§ 220501, et seq., such as USEF. This definition shall also apply to the USOPC, or other sports entity approved by the USOPC, when they have assumed responsibility for the management or governance of a sport included on the program of the Olympic, Paralympic, or Pan-American Games.

**Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant:** An Adult Participant who assists an athlete requiring help with activities of daily living and preparation for athletic participation. This support can be provided by a Guide for Blind or visually impaired athletes or can include assistance with transfer, dressing, showering, medication administration, and toileting. Personal Care Assistants are different for every athlete and should be individualized to fit their specific needs. When assisting a Minor Athlete, Adult Participant PCAs must be authorized by the athlete's parent/guardian.

**Regular Contact:** Ongoing interactions during a 12-month period wherein an Adult Participant is in a role of direct and active engagement with any Minor Athlete(s).

**U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC):** A federally chartered nonprofit corporation that serves as the National Olympic Committee and National Paralympic Committee for the United States.

# **PART I EDUCATION & TRAINING POLICY**

## **A. Mandatory Child Abuse Prevention Training for Adult Participants**

### **1. Adults Required to Complete Mandatory Training**

- a. The following Adult Participants must complete the *SafeSport Trained Core* either through the Center's online training or the Center's approved, in-person training:
  1. Adult Participants who have regular contact with any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor;
  2. Adult Participants who have authority over any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor, e.g. Licensed Officials, USEF Team Technical Advisors; USEF Team Selectors, etc.;
  3. USEF Senior Active Members; and
  4. Adult Participants who are an employee or board member of USEF.
- b. Adult Participants who are medical providers required to take training under Section (a) can take the Health Professionals Course in lieu of the *SafeSport Trained Core*.
- c. In addition to the above identified Adult Participants, all adult employees and board members of Recognized Affiliates must comply with this Education & Training Policy.

### **2. Timing of Training**

Adult Participants must complete this training:

- a. Before regular contact with an amateur athlete who is a minor begins; and
- b. Within the first 7 days of either initial membership or upon beginning a new role subjecting the adult to this policy.

### **3. Refresher Training**

The above listed Adult Participants must complete a refresher course on an annual basis, beginning the calendar year after completing the *SafeSport Trained Core*. Every four years, Adult Participants will complete the *SafeSport Trained Core* training. Medical providers can take the Health Professionals Course in lieu of the *SafeSport Trained Core* and are required to take the refresher courses on an annual basis if they meet the criteria for A (1).

## **B. Minor Athlete Training Must Be Offered**

1. USEF on an annual basis, must offer and, subject to parental consent, give training to Minor Athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
2. The Center offers youth courses, located at [www.safesporttrained.org](http://www.safesporttrained.org), that meet this requirement.

### **C. Parent Training Must Be Offered**

1. USEF, on an annual basis, must offer training to parents on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
2. The Center offers a parent course, located at [www.safesporttrained.org](http://www.safesporttrained.org), that meets this requirement.

### **D. Optional Training**

1. Adult Participants serving in a volunteer capacity, who will not have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes, are urged to take the Center's brief Volunteer Course (or *SafeSport Trained Core*) before engaging or interacting with any Minor Athlete(s).
2. USEF may provide training in addition to the *SafeSport Trained Core*, although they cannot refer to this training as "SafeSport" training. Training other than the *SafeSport Trained Core* or Refresher does not satisfy this policy.
3. Parents of Minor Athletes are provided free online access to the Center's parent course and are encouraged to take the training.

### **E. Exemptions and Accommodations**

1. Exemptions from this Education & Training Policy may be made on a case-by-case basis for victims/survivors. Requests may be made directly to the U.S. Center for SafeSport at [exemptions@safesport.org](mailto:exemptions@safesport.org).
2. The Center will work with USEF on appropriate accommodations for persons with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency to satisfy these training requirements. USEF and its Recognized Affiliates must provide reasonable accommodations and track any exemptions for individuals with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency.

## **PART II REQUIRED POLICIES FOR ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS**

The U.S. Center for SafeSport and USEF recognize that youth-adult relationships can be healthy and valuable for development. Policies on one-on-one interactions protect children while allowing for these beneficial relationships. As child sexual abuse is often perpetrated in isolated, one-on-one situations, it is critical that organizations limit such interactions between youth and adults and implement programs that reduce the risk of sexual abuse.

### **ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS POLICY**

#### **A. Mandatory Components**

##### **1. Observable and Interruptible**

- a. All one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be observable and interruptible, except in emergency circumstances.
- b. The exceptions below may apply to specific policies, and if the exceptions apply, they are listed in the policy. These exceptions also apply to all one-on-one In-Program Contact not specifically addressed in other policies:
  - i When a Dual Relationship exists; or
  - ii When the Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
  - iii If a Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant, and:
    - (1.) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
    - (2.) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
    - (3.) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the USEF Background Check Policy, if applicable; or
  - iv In other circumstances specifically addressed in this policy that allow for certain one-on-one interactions if the Adult Participant receives parent/ guardian consent.

# MEETINGS AND TRAINING SESSIONS POLICY

## A. Mandatory Components

### 1. Observable and Interruptible

- a. Adult Participants must follow the one-on-one interaction policy in all meetings and training sessions where Minor Athlete(s) are present.

### 2. Individual Training Sessions

- a. One-on-one, In-Program, individual training sessions must be observable and interruptible except if:
  - i. A Dual Relationship exists; or
  - ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
  - iii. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant, and:
    - (1.)the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian has provided written consent for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
    - (2.)the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
    - (3.)the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the USEF Background Check Policy, if applicable.
- b. The Adult Participant providing the individual training session must receive advance written consent from the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian at least annually, which can be withdrawn at any time; and
- c. Parents/guardians must be allowed to observe the individual training session.

### 3. Meetings with licensed mental health care professionals and health care providers (other than athletic trainers<sup>3</sup>)

If a licensed mental health care professional or licensed health care provider meets one-on-one with a Minor Athlete at a USEF sanctioned event or facility partially or fully under USEF’s jurisdiction, the meeting must be observable and interruptible except:

- a. If the door remains unlocked; and
- b. Another adult is present at the facility and notified that a meeting is occurring, although the Minor Athlete’s identity need not be disclosed; and
- c. The provider obtains consent from the Minor Athlete’s parent/ guardian consistent with applicable laws and ethical standards, which can be withdrawn at any time.

---

<sup>3</sup> Athletic trainers who are covered under these policies must follow the “Athletic Training Modalities, Massages, and Rubdowns” policy.

## **B. Recommended Best Practice**

### Parent Training

Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to have a meeting or training session with an Adult Participant subject to these policies.

### Out-of-Program Contacts

USEF recommends that Adult Participants refrain from interacting one-on-one with Minor Athletes in settings that are not observable or interruptible (including, but not limited to, one's home, and individual transportation). If this is not possible, USEF recommends that parent/guardian written consent is provided for such out-of-program contact.

## **ATHLETIC TRAINING MODALITIES, MASSAGES, AND RUBDOWNS POLICY**

### **A. Mandatory Components**

#### **1. Athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown**

All In-Program athletic training modalities, massages, or rubdowns of a Minor Athlete must:

- a. Be observable and interruptible; and
- b. Have another Adult Participant physically present for the athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown; and
- c. Have documented consent as explained in subsection (2) below; and
- d. Be performed with the Minor Athlete fully or partially clothed, ensuring that the breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals are always covered; and
- e. Allow parents/guardians in the room as an observer, except for competition or training venues that limit credentialing.

#### **2. Consent**

Providers of athletic training modalities, massages, and rubdowns or USEF, when applicable, must obtain consent at least annually from Minor Athletes' parents/guardians before providing any athletic training modalities, massages, or rubdowns. Minor Athletes or their parents/guardians can withdraw consent at any time.

### **B. Recommended Best Practices**

#### **1. Parent Training**

Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport education and training on child abuse prevention before

providing consent for their Minor Athlete to receive an athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown.

2. The provider should narrate the steps in the massage, rubdown, or athletic training modality before taking them, seeking assent of the Minor Athlete throughout the process.
3. When possible, techniques should be used to reduce physical touch of Minor Athletes.
4. Only licensed providers should administer a massage, rubdown, or athletic training modality.
5. Coaches, regardless of whether they are licensed massage therapists, should not massage Minor Athletes.

## **LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS POLICY**

### **A. Mandatory Components**

#### **1. Observable and Interruptible**

Adult Participants must ensure that all one-on-one In-Program Contact with Minor Athlete(s) in a locker room, changing area, or similar space where Minor Athlete(s) are present is observable and interruptible, except if:

- a. A Dual Relationship exists; or
- b. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
- c. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant and:
  - i. the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
  - ii. the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
  - iii. the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the USEF Background Check Policy, if applicable.

#### **2. Conduct in Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces**

- a. No Adult Participant or Minor Athlete can use the photographic or recording capabilities of any device in locker rooms, changing areas, or any other area designated as a place for changing clothes or undressing.
- b. Adult Participants must not change clothes or behave in a manner that intentionally or recklessly exposes their breasts, buttocks, groins, or genitals to a Minor Athlete.
- c. Adult Participants must not shower with Minor Athletes unless:

The Adult Participant meets the Close-in-Age Exception; or the shower is part of a pre- or post-activity rinse while wearing swimwear.

- d. Parents/guardians may request in writing that their Minor Athlete(s) not change or shower with Adult Participant(s) during In-Program Contact. USEF as well as the Adult Participant(s) must abide by this request.

### **3. Media and Championship Celebrations in Locker Rooms**

USEF may permit recording or photography in locker rooms for the purpose of highlighting a sport or athletic accomplishment if:

- a. Parent/legal guardian consent has been obtained; and
- b. USEF approves the specific instance of recording or photography; and
- c. Two or more Adult Participants are present; and
- d. Everyone is fully clothed.

### **4. Personal Care Assistants**

Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants are permitted to be with and assist Minor Athlete(s) in locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces where other Minor Athletes are present, if they meet the requirements in subsection (A)(1)(c) above.

### **5. Availability and Monitoring of Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces**

- a. If changing areas are designated as such or provided, then Competition Management must cause someone to monitor their use to ensure compliance with these policies at USEF sanctioned events or activities.
- b. At team competitions, the Competition Organizer must identify and provide a private or semi-private changing area for Minor Athletes, ensure its privacy, and ensure that when Minor Athletes are changing, access to the changing area is controlled.

## **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS<sup>4</sup> POLICY**

### **A. Mandatory Components**

#### **1. Open and Transparent**

- a. All one-on-one electronic communications between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be Open and Transparent except:
  - i. When a Dual Relationship exists; or
  - ii. When the Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
  - iii. If a Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant and:

---

<sup>4</sup> Electronic communications include, but are not limited to: phone calls, videoconferencing, video coaching, texting, and social media.

- (1.)the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian has provided written consent for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
  - (2.)the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
  - (3.)the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the USEF Background Check Policy, if applicable.
- b. Open and Transparent means that the Adult Participant copies or includes the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian, another adult family member of the Minor Athlete, or another Adult Participant.
    - If a Minor Athlete communicates with the Adult Participant first, the Adult Participant must follow this policy if the Adult Participant responds.
  - c. Only platforms that allow for Open and Transparent communication may be used to communicate with Minor Athletes.

## **2. Team Communication**

When an Adult Participant communicates electronically to the entire team or any number of Minor Athletes on the team, the Adult Participant must copy or include another Adult Participant or the Minor Athletes’ parents/guardians.

## **3. Content**

All electronic communication originating from an Adult Participant(s) to a Minor Athlete(s) must be professional in nature unless an exception in (1)(a) exists.

## **4. Requests to discontinue**

Parents/guardians may request in writing that USEF or an Adult Participant subject to this policy not contact their Minor Athlete through any form of electronic communication. USEF and the Adult Participant must abide by any request to discontinue, absent emergency circumstances.

## **B. Recommended Best Practices**

### **1. Hours**

Electronic communications should generally be sent only between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. local time for the location of the Minor Athlete.

### **2. Social Media Connections**

Adult Participants, except those with a Dual Relationship or who meet the Close-in-Age Exception, are not permitted to maintain private social media connections with Minor Athletes and should discontinue existing social media connections with Minor Athletes.

## **TRANSPORTATION POLICY**

### **A. Mandatory Components**

#### **1. Transportation**

- a. An Adult Participant cannot transport a Minor Athlete one-on-one during In-Program travel, except if:
  - i. A Dual Relationship exists; or
  - ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
  - iii. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant and:
    - (1.) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
    - (2.) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
    - (3.) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the USEF Background Check Policy, if applicable; or
  - iv. The Adult Participant has advance, written consent to transport the Minor Athlete one-on-one obtained at least annually from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian.
- b. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.
- c. An Adult Participant meets the In-Program transportation requirements if the Adult Participant is accompanied by another Adult Participant or at least two minors.
- d. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian is required for all transportation sanctioned USEF at least annually.

### **B. Recommended Best Practices**

#### **1. Shared or Carpool Travel Arrangement**

USEF encourages parents/guardians to pick up their Minor Athlete first and drop off their Minor Athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement.

#### **2. Parent Training**

Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to travel one-on-one with an Adult Participant.

## **LODGING POLICY**

### **A. Mandatory Components**

#### **1. Hotel Rooms and Other Sleeping Arrangements**

- a. All In-Program Contact at a hotel or lodging site between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be observable and interruptible, and an Adult

Participant cannot share a hotel room or otherwise sleep in the same room with a Minor Athlete(s), except if:

- i. A Dual Relationship Exists, and the Minor Athlete’s parent/ guardian has provided advance, written consent for the lodging arrangement;
- ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies, and the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian has provided advance, written consent for the lodging arrangement; or
- iii. The Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant, and:
  - (1.) The Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian has provided advance, written consent for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete and for the lodging arrangement;
  - (2.) The Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
  - (3.) The Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USEF’s Background Check Policy, if applicable.
- b. Written consent from a Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian must be obtained for all In-Program lodging at least annually.

## **2. Monitoring or Room Checks During In-Program Travel**

If room checks are performed during In-Program lodging, the one-on-one interaction policy must be followed and at least two adults must be present for the room checks.

## **3. Additional Requirements for Lodging Authorized or Funded by USEF**

- a. Adult Participants traveling with USEF must agree to and sign USEF’s lodging policy at least annually.
- b. Adult Participants that travel overnight with Minor Athlete(s) are assumed to have Authority over Minor Athlete(s) and thus must comply with USEF’s Education & Training Policy.

## **B. Recommended Best Practices**

### Parent Training

Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for lodging arrangements under this policy.

## **PART III RECOMMENDED POLICIES FOR KEEPING YOUNG ATHLETES SAFE**

### **A. Out-of-Program Contact**

1. Adult Participants, who do not meet the Close-in-Age Exception nor have a Dual Relationship with a Minor Athlete, should not have out-of-program contact with Minor Athlete(s) without parent/guardian consent, even if the out-of-program contact is not one-on-one.

### **B. Gifting**

1. Adult Participants, who do not meet the Close-in-Age Exception nor have a Dual Relationship with a Minor Athlete, should not give personal gifts to Minor Athlete(s).
2. Gifts that are equally distributed to all athletes and serve a motivational or education purpose are permitted.

### **C. Photography/Video**

1. Photographs or videos of athletes may only be taken in public view and must observe generally accepted standards of decency.
2. Adult Participants should not publicly share or post photos or videos of Minor Athlete(s) if the Adult Participant has not obtained the parent/guardian and Minor Athlete's consent.

# APPENDIX

## ORGANIZATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATION & TRAINING AND PREVENTION POLICIES

As the National Governing Body for equestrian sport, USEF must implement proactive policies designed to prevent abuse. These organizational requirements are described below.

### A. Organizational Requirements for Education & Training

1. USEF must track whether Adult Participants under its jurisdiction complete the required training listed in Part I.
2. USEF must, on an annual basis, offer and, subject to parental consent, give training to Minor Athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
  - a. For training to Minor Athletes, USEF must track a description of the training and how the training was offered and provided to Minor Athletes.
  - b. USEF is not required to track individual course completions of Minor Athletes.
3. USEF must, on an annual basis, offer training to parents on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.

### B. Required Prevention Policies and Implementation

1. USEF must develop minor athlete abuse prevention policies that contain the mandatory components of the Center's model policies in Part II. These model policies cover:
  - a. One-on-one interactions
  - b. Meetings and training sessions
  - c. Athletic training modalities, massages, and rubdowns
  - d. Locker rooms and changing areas
  - e. Electronic communications
  - f. Transportation
  - g. Lodging
2. The policies must be approved by the Center. The policies may include the recommended components in Parts I, II and III. Given the uniqueness of each sport, however, some recommended components or policies may not be feasible or appropriate. USEF may choose to implement stricter standards than the model policies.
3. USEF must also require that its Recognized Affiliates implement these policies within their organizations.
4. USEF must implement these policies for all In-Program Contact.
  - a. At sanctioned events and facilities partially or fully under its jurisdiction, the organization must take

steps to ensure the policies are implemented and followed.

- b. For In-Program Contact that occurs outside USEF's sanctioned event or facilities, implementing these policies means:
  - i. Communicating the policies to individuals under its jurisdiction;
  - ii. Establishing a reporting mechanism for violations of the policies;
  - iii. Investigating and enforcing violations of the policies.
5. USEF must have a reporting mechanism to accept reports that an Adult Participant is violating USEF's minor athlete abuse prevention policies. USEF must appropriately investigate and resolve any reports received, unless the violation is reported to the Center and it exercises jurisdiction over the report. This requirement is in addition to requirements to report abuse under the SafeSport Code.

### **C. Policy Approval and Submission Process**

1. USEF may adopt the MAAPP as-is or adapt it to fit their needs. Regardless, each Organization must submit their policies to the Center at [compliance@safesport.org](mailto:compliance@safesport.org) for review and approval by January 31, 2021. The Center will approve, approve with modifications, or deny the policies. If the Center denies the proposed policy, the mandatory components of Part III become the default policy until the Center approves the policy.
2. USEF has no Local Affiliated Associations (LAO) but if it does in the future, USEF must require their LAOs to incorporate the mandatory components of Part II. NGBs may require that their LAOs implement the NGB's policies, which may be more stringent than the policies in Part II.
3. USEF may, in its discretion, require its Recognized Affiliate to implement these policies.
  - USEF may choose to require its Recognized Affiliates to implement the Education & Training Policy but must obtain advanced, written approval from the Center to expand the training access to additional persons. Requests must be submitted to [ngbservices@safesport.org](mailto:ngbservices@safesport.org).
4. The mandatory components of Part II will serve as the default policy for any organization that fails to develop its own policy as required by this section.



[usef.org](http://usef.org)

© All rights reserved. 2020 by United States Equestrian Federation® Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.