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Memorandum

Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy

May 24, 2019

To: All State Safe Sport Coordinators and State Chairpersons

The US Center for SafeSport has revised the old “Proactive Policies” into the new Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP). USA Wrestling has revised our Safe Sport Policy accordingly, and it was approved by the Board on April 27, 2019. USA Wrestling asks your assistance to get this information down to your clubs.

The MAAPP actually went into effect on March 23, 2019. NGB’s are given until June 23, 2019 to bring all members into compliance.

1. The most immediate change is that all athletes 18 and older (or turning 18 prior to August 31, 2019) must complete the US Center for SafeSport training. It is free with their USA Wrestling membership, and is the same training required of all Wrestling Leader members of USA Wrestling. Those athletes currently 17 years old, but turning 18 prior to August 31, 2019, must get parental consent to take the training. After June 23, 2019, any athlete member not in compliance may be denied access to a USA Wrestling sanctioned event. Junior Nationals is the only national event on the schedule after June 23, so we recommend communicating this requirement to the appropriate athletes in advance of any training camp for Junior Nationals. A direct link for those in need of SafeSport training can be found [here](#).

Until the Center provides an online form for Parental Consent, each club director should get an email or text from a parent consenting to their minor 17 year old to take the training online, or use this [Parental Consent Form](#). Please connect with your local club directors on this matter ASAP.

2. Starting with the 2019-20 season, all USA Wrestling chartered clubs will need to offer Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Training to all athletes under the age of 18. The training materials are being produced by the US Center for SafeSport. Our understanding is that this will be offered in an online format making it easy for clubs to administer. The materials and consent forms should be available by June 12, 2019 on the Center’s website. It is our intent to provide the verbiage that club leaders can easily e-mail to all of their club members.

Each club will need to track: (a) description of the trainings (this will merely be “the USCSS materials for ages ___”), (b) date(s) the training information was provided to the parents of members, and (c) description of how the training was offered and given (i.e., online training provided by Center). USA Wrestling will collect information from club directors in our membership system, all of which will be exportable by the state association’s Safe Sport Coordinator.

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We know this is a change for clubs, and will initially be a challenge. Once we get through the first cycle it should become easier. However, as the NGB for wrestling, this is a requirement. USA Wrestling and our chartered clubs will be audited for compliance by both the US Center for SafeSport and the USOC.

Starting with the 2020-21 season, clubs will not be able to renew their charter without compliance from the 2019-20 season on this education requirement.

There will be another Safe Sport Coordinator teleconference in mid-June to discuss these matters and the new Safe Sport Program Handbook. As always, I am open to any questions.

Best regards,

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