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## SAFE SPORT INFORMATION

(This should be on NAHA website under Safe Sport)

### ***SAFESPORT***

As with all national governing bodies (NGB's) that are recognized by the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee for their particular sport, USA Hockey is subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Center for SafeSport (the "Center") to help create a safer environment for athletes to succeed.

The Center regulations are set forth in the SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement (the "SafeSport Code") and the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (the "MAAPP"). The SafeSport Code primarily covers prohibited conduct and the Center's response and resolution process, while the MAAPP is aimed at training requirements and preventive policies around locker rooms, travel, electronic communications, and other areas where prohibited one-on-one interactions may occur.

USA Hockey is required to adopt policies consistent with the SafeSport Code and MAAPP, and has incorporated the applicable provisions into the USA Hockey Safe Sport Program Handbook.

### ***MAAPP Policies***

The policies in the MAAPP are set forth in USA Hockey's Safe Sport Program Handbook. USA Hockey updated its Safe Sport Program Handbook on January 3, 2023, a copy of which is available online at [www.usahockey.com/safesportprogram](http://www.usahockey.com/safesportprogram).

USA Hockey's website contains additional materials and resources regarding its Safe Sport Program. All USA Hockey member programs are required to comply with the USA Hockey Safe Sport Handbook, including implementation of the requirements of the MAAPP.

### **SafeSport Training and Background Screen Requirements**

#### **I. Who Needs SafeSport Training or a USA Hockey Screen**

The following page includes a chart of different categories of members and whether they are required to complete SafeSport Training and/or a Background Screen.

The following Participants are required to have SafeSport Training and/or a Background Screen **before** the Participant is allowed to have regular contact or authority over Minor Athletes (**including all practices and team meetings**):

Category of USA Hockey Participant	SafeSport Training	Background Screen
Affiliate Board of Directors	✓	✓
Member Program Administrators, including board members, hockey directors, or other employees of the Program	✓	✓
Coaches eighteen (18) or older	✓	✓
Officials eighteen (18) or older	✓	✓
Staff persons or volunteers eighteen (18) or older with regular contact and/or authority over minors (e.g., team managers, locker room monitors, chaperones, team drivers, etc.)	✓	✓
Coaches, officials, staff persons or volunteers with a 2006 birth year (turning 17 on or before December 31, 2023)	✓	✗
Players with a 2006 birth year (turning 17 on or before December 31, 2023) or earlier, and playing on a team that allows Minor Athletes	✓	✗

### ***Links to Access Training or to Submit a Background Screen***

Before completing SafeSport Training or a Background Screen, all members must first register with USA Hockey for the current season at: <https://membership.usahockey.com>

To complete SafeSport Training, please go to: [www.usahockey.com/safesporttraining](http://www.usahockey.com/safesporttraining)

To complete a USA Hockey Background Screen, please go to: [www.usahockey.com/backgroundscreen](http://www.usahockey.com/backgroundscreen)

**Note:** USA Hockey is unable to accept background screens from other sports.

### ***Compliance with Requirements***

Member Program registrars cannot place a coach or player on a roster unless they meet the requirements above. Additionally, any referee without the required training or a screen will not receive their card and crest for the current season. **Local programs must ensure all participants who require training and a background Screen have met these requirements before they are allowed to have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes. Members Programs and Affiliates must audit their participants regularly for compliance.** To track and audit program compliance by staff/volunteers that are not on a team roster, a suggested best practice is to create a roster of volunteers that will identify whether they have completed Training or Screening.

As of January 1, 2022, the Center for SafeSport requires members to complete SafeSport Training at least every twelve (12) months instead of once per USA Hockey membership season. This new annual Training requirement will go into effect for USA Hockey as of April 1, 2022 for the 2022- 23 membership season. USA Hockey will email participants before their SafeSport Training renewal date and notify the Participant's Member Program and Affiliate. **Any participant who has not taken the required training on or before the renewal date will be ineligible to participate in any USA Hockey sanctioned event or activity, in any role listed above, until the training is complete.**

## ***Required Policies for Member Programs***

USA Hockey Member Programs and Affiliates must follow the policies in the USA Hockey Safe Sport Program Handbook. In addition, Member Programs must develop and implement, **in writing**, the following policies, consistent with the provisions found in the Safe Sport Program Handbook:

*A Locker Room Policy* published to a parent/guardian for each Minor Athlete and for each facility the program regularly uses;

*A Team Travel Policy* (including both Transportation and Lodging) applicable to youth teams that is published and provided to all players, parents, coaches, and other adults that are traveling with the team, and which includes parental consents to In-Program travel and lodging; and

*A Billet Policy* (only for programs/teams utilizing a billeting arrangement) that is provided to the parent/guardian of any billeted player before placing the player in a billet home.

Sample policies may be found at <http://www.usahockey.com/safesportprogram>.

## ***Parental Consent Forms for Member Programs***

In addition to the policies listed above, each Member Program shall make available and store written parental consent forms consistent with the requirements of the Safe Sport Program Handbook. Depending on the policy, consent can be required (i) in every instance, (ii) on an annual basis, or (iii) the parent/guardian can determine whether to provide consent annually or in every instance.

Dual Relationship Exception to MAAPP -- *Annual Consent Form*

Dual Relationship Exception Forms -- *Specific Dates/Events*, for:

- One-one-one Interactions
- Transportation
- Electronic Communications
- Locker Rooms
- Lodging (Not a Shared Room)
- Lodging (Shared Room)

Personal Care Assistant -- *Annual Consent Form*

Dual Relationship Exception Forms -- *Specific Dates/Events*, for

- One-on-one Interactions
- Transportation
- Electronic Communications
- Locker Rooms
- Lodging (Not a Shared Room)
- Lodging (Shared Room)

## General Consent Regarding MAAPP -- *Annual Consent Form*

Consent for individual MAAPP policies -- *Specific Dates/Events*, for

- Athletic Training Modalities, Massages, or Rubdowns
- Consent for Individual Training Sessions
- Consent for Media and Championship Celebration in Locker Rooms
- Consent for Transportation by an Adult Participant
- Consent for Transportation by Local Program

Sample forms may be found at <https://www.usahockey.com/resourcesanddownloads>

### ***USA Hockey Sanctioned Tournaments***

Most Member Programs host sanctioned tournaments during the course of a season. The Safe Sport requirements for USA Hockey sanctioned tournaments may be found here: <https://www.usahockey.com/resourcesanddownloads>

### ***SAFESPORT Reporting***

#### ***How to Report***

USA Hockey's Reporting Policy is a vital part of its Safe Sport Program, and an effective reporting policy is crucial to preventing abuse. Section IV of the Safe Sport Handbook contains specifics on the Reporting Policy – for more information on making a report, please see: [www.usahockey.com/makingareport](http://www.usahockey.com/makingareport).

The Center has exclusive jurisdiction to investigate and resolve allegations of sexual misconduct within USA Hockey programs. The Center also has the discretion to accept jurisdiction over other types of misconduct, but for the most part allegations of other types of misconduct, including emotional or physical abuse, bullying, hazing, threats or harassment, or violations of the MAAPP, are investigated and resolved by USA Hockey and its affiliates.

#### ***Reports to U.S. Center for SafeSport***

If an Adult Participant reasonably suspects that an incident(s) of Child Abuse or Sexual Misconduct has occurred, they must immediately report the incident(s) to the Center as well as applicable law enforcement authorities.

Reports to the Center may be made by:

1. Completing an online report to the Center at [www.uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern/](http://www.uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern/) or by:
2. Calling 833-587-7233.

#### ***Reports to USA Hockey and Nevada Amateur Hockey Association (NAHA)***

Reports of any allegation of misconduct or other inappropriate behavior that may violate Safe Sport Policies other than Sexual Misconduct or Child Abuse, should be made immediately to USA Hockey or the applicable NAHA Safe Sport Consultant, or may also be made to the Center. Reports to USA Hockey may be made by:

1. Clicking on the “Report to USA Hockey” link on the USA Hockey Safe Sport Program webpage ([www.usahockey.com/makingareport](http://www.usahockey.com/makingareport)),
2. E-mailing to [usahockeysafesport@usahockey.org](mailto:usahockeysafesport@usahockey.org), or
3. Calling **800-888-4656**. The USA Hockey Safe Sport Program webpage contains contact information for each Affiliate Safe Sport Coordinator.
4. NAHA Safe Sport Consultant at: [safesportconsultant@gmail.com](mailto:safesportconsultant@gmail.com)

### ***Changes to Training Requirements***

In addition to the above changes, the Center now requires renewal of SafeSport Training to be completed within 12 months of the prior training. This may mean that some participants will be within the 12-month period and eligible at the beginning of the season, but will have their training expire and become ineligible during the season unless new training is completed.

### ***Confidentiality***

To the extent permitted by law, and as appropriate, USA Hockey, NAHA and all Member Programs shall keep confidential the complainant’s name on request, not make public the names of potential victims, the accused perpetrator or the people who made a report of child physical and sexual abuse to the authorities.

### ***Anonymous Reporting***

Anonymous reporting may make it difficult for USA Hockey or NAHA to investigate or properly address misconduct or abuse. However, NAHA recognizes it can be difficult for an athlete, teammate, friend or family member to report an allegation of misconduct and strives to remove as many barriers to reporting as possible. Anonymous reports may be made without the formality of completing a Report Form:

- By completing the Reporting Form without including their name.
- by expressing concerns verbally to the NAHA SafeSport Coordinator or to their local program administrator.
- through email to the NAHA SafeSport Consultant.

### ***Bad-Faith Allegations***

A report of abuse, misconduct or policy violations that is malicious, frivolous or made in bad faith is prohibited. Such reports will be considered a violation of the USA Hockey SafeSport Program and grounds for disciplinary action. Depending on the nature of the allegation, a person making a malicious, frivolous or bad-faith report may also be subject to civil or criminal proceedings.