

MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICIES

USA Skateboarding Policy Approved Date: March 7, 2022

Effective Date: January 1, 2022, Retroactively Applied

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INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Center for SafeSport (the Center) is 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 Terminology section in the back of this document.

USA Skateboarding's: Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies

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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, national governing bodies and paralympic sports organizations *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 Olympic & Paralympic Movement;
2. Required Prevention Policies, focused on limiting one-on-one interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes, that Organizations within the Olympic & Paralympic Movement must implement to prevent abuse;
3. Recommended Prevention Policies.

The Center developed the MAAPP to assist National Governing Bodies (USA Skateboarding), Paralympic Sport Organizations (PSOs), Local Affiliated Organizations (LAOs), the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), and other individuals 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 Organizations should share these policies with all

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Participants and with parents/guardians of minor athletes. Those implementing these policies should consider the physical and cognitive needs of all athletes.

The MAAPP focuses on just two important aspects of a much larger comprehensive abuse prevention strategy. These policies address training requirements and limit 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 recommends that parents first complete training on abuse prevention to be informed about potential boundary violations and concerns before consenting to the interaction.**

While the MAAPP will help organizations implement these policies to greatly improve minor athlete safety, in no way can they 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 safety¹.

How Does the Center Ensure Compliance with the MAAPP?

Federal law requires the Center to conduct regular and random audits of the USA Skateboarding to ensure compliance with these policies. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(2)(E). More specific organizational compliance requirements can be found in Part II. Additionally, it is the

¹ 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](#).

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responsibility of the USOPC and USA Skateboarding, LAO (when one exists), and Adult Participant to comply with the MAAPP. The aforementioned Organizations can act in their respective programs for violations of the MAAPP by Adult Participants. Adult Participants also have an independent responsibility to comply with these MAAPP provisions. Violations of these provisions can result in sanctions under the SafeSport Code.

Is the MAAPP Different from the SafeSport Code?

Yes. The [SafeSport Code](#) works alongside the MAAPP to prevent abuse. The MAAPP includes proactive prevention policies for organizations and individuals, while the SafeSport Code contains misconduct policies for individuals. However, violations of the MAAPP can violate the SafeSport Code, and violators can be sanctioned.

Scope of MAAPP

The MAAPP Applies to “In-Program Contact” Within the Olympic & Paralympic Movement

The MAAPP is required for the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (“USOPC”), National Governing Bodies (such as **USA Skateboarding**), Local Affiliated Organizations (“LAOs”), which **USA Skateboarding** does not currently have, and Paralympic Sport Organizations (“PSOs”) within the Olympic & Paralympic Movement (each an independent “Organization”).

Some policies impose requirements on **USA Skateboarding** at sanctioned events and facilities partially or fully under **USA Skateboarding’s** jurisdiction. For example, **USA Skateboarding** must monitor changing areas at their sanctioned events, such as at a National Championship competition that is rented for a day use. Additionally, all **USA Skateboarding** Adult Participants (as defined below) are required to understand and follow the MAAPP at all times, regardless of whether the facility is under the jurisdiction of **USA Skateboarding**. Other policies impose certain requirements on Adult Participants under **USA Skateboarding’s** jurisdiction when the Adult Participant is having In-Program Contact (as defined below). For example, Adult Participants cannot have one-on-one electronic communications (as defined herein this policy) with Minor Athletes that they coach.

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Who is a Minor Athlete?

A **Minor Athlete** is an amateur athlete² 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 USA Skateboarding.

Partial or Full Jurisdiction: Includes any sanctioned event (including all travel and lodging in connection with the event) by USA Skateboarding or any facility that the USA Skateboarding owns, leases, or rents for practice, training, or competition.

Who is an Adult Participant?

An **Adult Participant** is *any adult (18 years of age or older)* who is:

1. A member of USA Skateboarding
2. An employee or board member of USA Skateboarding
3. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Skateboarding
4. Authorized, approved, or appointed by USA Skateboarding to have regular contact with; *or* authority over Minor Athletes.³

What is In-Program Contact?

In-Program Contact includes sanctioned events and facilities, but it also applies more broadly to sport-related interactions. **The Center’s MAAPP defines “In-Program Contact” as:** *Any contact (including communications, interactions, or activities) between an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) related to participation in sport.*

Examples of in-program contact include, but are not limited to: competition, practices, camps/clinics, training/instructional sessions, pre/post game meals or outings, team travel, review of game film, team- or sport-related relationship building activities, celebrations, award ceremonies, banquets, team- or sport-related fundraising or community service, sport education, or competition site visits, *regardless of the venue that this contact is occurring.*

² “Minor Athlete” in the MAAPP is not the same definition of “Amateur Athlete” as defined by 36 USC §2205, the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (hereinafter, “the Act”), but is exclusive to the Center’s definition as it relates to the Required Prevention Policies within the MAAPP.

³ This may include volunteers, medical staff, trainers, chaperones, monitors, contract personnel, bus/van drivers, officials, adult athletes, staff, board members, and any other individual who meets the Adult Participant definition.

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Does the MAAPP Have Any Exceptions?

Yes. The MAAPP was written with certain appropriate exceptions in mind. Exceptions are addressed in each policy and include:

1. A Close-in-Age Exception

This exception applies to certain policies and allows for In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete if:

- a. The Adult Participant has no authority over the Minor Athlete; and
- b. The Adult Participant is *not more* than four years older than the Minor Athlete.

Note: This exception is different from the close-in-age exception in the [SafeSport Code](#) pertaining to misconduct.

2. Exceptions for Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants Working with a Minor Athlete

This exception applies to certain policies only with the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian's written consent, completion of SafeSport Training, passage of a background check screening, and after proof of completion from the parent(s)/guardian(s) that child abuse prevention training provided by the Center was completed. The Center offers a free Parent Course at safesporttrained.org

3. Exceptions for Dual Relationships

This exception applies to certain policies when the Adult Participant has a dual role or relationship with a Minor Athlete. The exception requires written consent of the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian at least annually.

Many of the exceptions require parent(s)/guardian(s) consent. The Center recommends parents take training on child abuse prevention before providing consent under these policies. The Center offers a free Parent Course at safesporttrained.org.

Am I required to take SafeSport Training?

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Adult Participants within the Olympic & Paralympic Movement who have (i) regular contact with Minor Athletes, (ii) authority over Minor Athletes, ***or*** (iii) are employees (including monthly contractors), board members, or committee members of USA Skateboarding are required to take training. The specific training requirements can be found in Part I of this MAAPP.

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PART I EDUCATION & TRAINING POLICY

A. Mandatory Child Abuse Prevention Training for Adult Participants

1. Adult Participants Required to Complete Training

- a. The following Adult Participants must complete the Center's *Core SafeSport Training* either through the Center's online training or the Center's approved, in-person training :
 - i. Adult Participants who have regular contact with any amateur athlete(s) who is a/are minor(s);
 - ii. Adult Participants who have authority over any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor; or
 - iii. Adult Participants who are employees (including monthly contractors), interns, coaching members, adult athlete members, board members, or committee members of USA Skateboarding
- b. Adult Participants who are medical providers, required to take training under Section (a) can take the Health Professionals Course, and must provide written proof of completion, in lieu of the Center's *Core SafeSport Training*. This only applies to the Center's *Core SafeSport Training*. If the provider travels with the National Team as a National Team medical provider, the provider must take the Center's *Core SafeSport Training*, regardless of whether the Health Professionals Course was completed.

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 45 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 the Center's *Refresher Course* on an annual basis for three (3) consecutive years, within 12 months after completing the Center's *Core SafeSport Training*. Every four years, Adult Participants will complete the Center's *Core SafeSport Training*. Medical providers can take the Health Professionals

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Course in lieu of the Center's *Core SafeSport Training* 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. **USA Skateboarding** on an annual basis, must offer and subject to parental consent, give training to Minor Athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse. **USA Skateboarding** will send quarterly emails to parents and offer links for Minor Athletes via email and on the website to access and complete the Center's youth courses. Additionally, National Team Minor Athletes will receive training on the prevention and reporting of child abuse, subject to the Minor Athlete's parental consent.
2. The Center offers youth courses that meet this requirement are found here: safesporttrained.org.

C. Parent Training Must Be Offered

1. **USA Skateboarding** on an annual basis, must offer training to parents on the prevention and reporting of child abuse. **USA Skateboarding** will send quarterly emails to parents and offer links via email and on the website for parents to access and complete the Center's parent training. Additionally, National Team Minor Athletes' parents will be offered training on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
2. Parents of Minor Athletes are provided free online access to the Center's parent course and are *highly encouraged* to take the training.
3. The Center offers a parent course that meets this requirement are found here: Safesporttrained.org.

D. Optional Training

1. Adult Participants serving in a volunteer capacity, who will not have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes, *must* take the Center's brief *Volunteer Course* (unless the Volunteer has proof of completion of the Center's *Core SafeSport Training*) ***before*** engaging or interacting with any Minor Athlete(s).

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2. **USA Skateboarding** reserves the right to provide training *in addition to* the Center's *SafeSport Core Training*. This training is not considered "SafeSport" training. Training other than the Center's *SafeSport Core Training* or *Refresher Course* do not satisfy this policy except as provided above in A.1.b.

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.
2. The Center will work with **USA Skateboarding** on appropriate accommodations for persons with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency to satisfy these training requirements. **USA Skateboarding** must provide reasonable accommodations and track any exemptions for individuals with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency.

F. **Adult Participants**

1. **USA Skateboarding** considers the following **USA Skateboarding** individuals as Adult Participants required to take SafeSport Training:
 - a. Adult Athletes
 - i. National Team Members
 - ii. Competitors in National Championships or Qualifiers
 - iii. Competitors in World Championships for Adaptive Skateboarding
 - b. All Staff and interns
 - c. Monthly Contractors
 - d. Coaches / High Performance Directors
 - e. Skateboard Instructors

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- f. Board Members
- g. Committee Members that are not Ad Hoc
- h. Medical Professionals (not including same day non-notice EMT workers)
 - i. Athletic Trainers
 - ii. Physical Therapists
 - iii. Team Doctor

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PART II ORGANIZATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATION & TRAINING AND PREVENTION POLICIES

USA Skateboarding must and will implement proactive policies designed to prevent abuse. These organizational requirements are described below.

A. Organizational Requirements for Education & Training

1. **USA Skateboarding** must and will track whether Adult Participants under its jurisdiction complete the required training listed in Part I.
2. **USA Skateboarding** must and will, on an annual basis, offer and, subject to parental consent, give training to Minor Athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse as required in Part I B.
 - a. For training to Minor Athletes, **USA Skateboarding** will use the Center's offerings to provide this training to Minor Athletes found here: safesporttrained.org and will send out quarterly emails reminding parents of the Center's offer for training.
 - b. **USA Skateboarding** is not required to track individual course completions of Minor Athletes but will keep track of the dates that quarterly emails are sent from USA Skateboarding offering the Center's training.
3. **USA Skateboarding** must and will, on an annual basis, offer and give training to Parents of Minor Athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse as required in Part I C.

B. Required Prevention Policies and Implementation

1. USA Skateboarding must develop minor athlete abuse prevention policies that contain the mandatory components of the Center's model policies in Part III. These model policies cover:
 - a. One-on-one interactions
 - b. Meetings and training sessions

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- 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 as described in subsection (C) below. The policies may include the recommended components in Part III and the recommended policies in Part IV. Given the uniqueness of each sport, however, some recommended components or policies may not be feasible or appropriate. An Organization may choose to implement stricter standards than the model policies.
 3. USA Skateboarding must also require that its LAOs implement these policies within each LAO. Currently, USA Skateboarding does not have LAOs.
 4. USA Skateboarding 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 USA Skateboarding'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. USA Skateboarding must have a reporting mechanism to accept reports that an Adult Participant is violating USA Skateboarding's minor athlete abuse prevention policies. USA Skateboarding must appropriately investigate and resolve any reports received, unless the violation is reported to the Center and the Center 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

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1. USA Skateboarding 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 for review and approval by January 31, 2021. The Center will approve, approve with modifications, or deny the policies. In the event the Center denies the proposed policy, USA Skateboarding will post the Center's mandatory components of Part III and these components become the default policy until the Center approves USA Skateboarding's policy.
2. USA Skateboarding must require their LAOs (when applicable) to incorporate the mandatory components of Part III. USA Skateboarding may require that their LAOs implement USA Skateboarding's policies, which may be more stringent than the Center's template Part III policies.
3. USA Skateboarding may, in its discretion, require its National Member Organizations ("NMO") (when applicable) to implement these policies.
 - If USA Skateboarding chooses to require its NMOs to implement the Education & Training Policy must obtain advanced, written approval from the Center to expand the training access to additional persons. Requests must be submitted by USA Skateboarding to ngbservices@safesport.org with the requested NMO point of contact cc'd.
4. The mandatory components of Part III will serve as the default policy in the event that USA Skateboarding fails to develop its own policy as required above by this section.

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PART III REQUIRED POLICIES FOR ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

The U.S. Center for SafeSport recognizes that youth-adult relationships can be healthy and valuable for development. Policies specific to one-on-one interactions protect children while giving healthy boundaries that allow these beneficial relationships to develop. Because child sexual abuse is often perpetrated in isolated, one-on-one situations, it is critical that organizations, such as USA Skateboarding, limit such interactions between youth and adults and implement programs that reduce the risk of sexual abuse.

A. ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

1. Observable and Interruptible

- a. All one-on-one In-Program Contact(s) between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be observable and interruptible, except and unless there are extenuating reasonable emergency circumstances.
- b. The exceptions below may apply to specific policies, and if the exceptions apply, the exceptions are listed in the policy. These exceptions also apply to all one-on-one In-Program Contact(s) that may not specifically addressed in other policies:
 - i. When a Dual Relationship (as defined in Terminology) exists; or
 - ii. When the Close-in-Age Exception applies (as defined in Terminology); or
 - iii. If a Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant (as defined in Terminology) and meets the following three (3) requirements:
 - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Skateboarding 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 USA Skateboarding's background check policy; or

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iv. In other circumstances specifically addressed in this policy that allow for certain one-on-one interactions if the USA Skateboarding receives a parent(s)/guardian(s) consent.

B. MEETINGS AND TRAINING SESSIONS

1. Observable and Interruptible

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 to USA Skateboarding 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 USA Skateboarding's background check policy.
- 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. Parent(s)/guardian(s) must be allowed to observe the individual training session at all times. However, the Parent(s)/guardian(s) must adhere to USA Skateboarding's Parental Code of Conduct, such that the only reason for interference with the individual training session is a violation of the MAAPP, the SafeSport Code, or other USA Skateboarding policies.

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3. Meetings with licensed mental health care professionals and health care providers (other than athletic trainers⁴)

If a licensed mental health care professional or licensed health care provider meets one-on-one with a Minor Athlete at a sanctioned event or a facility, which is partially or fully under USA Skateboarding'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 and the approximate length of the meeting, although the Minor Athlete's identity is not required to be disclosed; and
- c. USA Skateboarding is notified in writing that the provider will be meeting with a Minor Athlete; and
- d. The provider obtains consent from the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) or Minor Athlete consistent with applicable laws and ethical standards, which can be withdrawn in writing, verbally, or physically at any time.

4. Additional Monitoring, When Available

If a permitted meeting or training session takes place between an Adult Participant(s) and a Minor Athlete(s) at a facility partially or fully under USA Skateboarding's jurisdiction, when available, another Adult Participant will monitor each meeting or training session.

- a. When available means, at a permitted meeting or training session that another Adult Participant is present and reasonably available to monitor the meeting or training session. Reasonably available means, does not unreasonably interfere or impede the Adult Participants' purpose for being at the same place that the meeting or training session is being held.

⁴ Athletic trainers who are covered under these policies must follow the "Athletic Training Modalities, Massages, and Rubdowns" policy.

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- b. Monitoring includes knowing that the meeting or training session is occurring, knowing the approximate planned duration of the meeting or training session, and dropping in on the meeting or training session.
- c. All parental/guardian consent forms will be reviewed and kept on file by the General Counsel of USA Skateboarding for reference. Adult Participants may contact USA Skateboarding at anytime to verify parental/guardian consent form at info@usaskateboarding.com. To make a report of a violation, go to: <https://usaskateboarding.com/pages/safesport>

5. Parent Training

Parent(s)/guardian(s) are offered 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. If the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) opt out of training, the consent will indicate that the parent has chosen to opt out of training and will be offered through safesporttrained.org.

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C. ATHLETIC TRAINING MODALITIES, MESSAGES, AND RUBDOWNS

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 (this can include an Adult Athlete) physically present for the athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown; and
- c. Have documented consent as explained in C.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 parent(s)/guardian(s) in the room as an observer, with the exception of competition or training venues that limit credentialing, and make it inaccessible.

2. Consent

- a. Providers of athletic training modalities, massages, and rubdowns or USA Skateboarding or USOPC, when applicable, must obtain consent at least annually from Minor Athletes' parent(s)/guardian(s) before providing any athletic training modalities, massages, or rubdowns.
- b. Minor Athletes or their parent(s)/guardian(s) can withdraw consent in writing, verbally, or physically at any time.

3. Parent Training

Parent(s)/guardian(s) are offered the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to have an athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown. If the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) opt out of training, the consent will indicate that the parent has chosen to opt out of training and will be offered through safesporttrained.org.

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4. Provider Requirements

- a. The provider must narrate the steps in the massage, rubdown, or athletic training modality before taking them, seeking consent of the Minor Athlete throughout the process.
- b. When possible, techniques that reduce physical touch of Minor Athletes must always be used.
- c. Only active licensed providers can administer a massage, rubdown, or athletic training modality.
- d. Coaches, regardless of whether they are licensed massage therapists, **must never** massage Minor Athletes.

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS

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:

- a. When a Dual Relationship (as defined in Terminology) exists; or
- b. When the Close-in-Age Exception applies (as defined in Terminology); or
- c. If a Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant (as defined in Terminology) and meets the following three (3) requirements:
 - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Skateboarding 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 USA Skateboarding's background check policy.

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

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- a. No Adult Participant or Minor Athlete can take photographs, videos, recordings, snapchats, instagram stories, any similar type of media, or use photographic or recording capabilities *of any device* in locker rooms, changing areas, or any other area designated as a place for changing clothes, disrobing to undergarments, or undressing.
 - b. Adult Participants must not change clothes or behave in a manner that deliberately on purpose, carelessly, or recklessly without regard to the action exposes their breasts, buttocks, groins, or genitals to a Minor Athlete.
 - c. Adult Participants must not shower with Minor Athletes unless:
 - i. The Adult Participant meets the Close-in-Age Exception; or
 - ii. The shower is part of a pre- or post-activity rinse while wearing swimwear.
 - d. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may request in writing that their Minor Athlete(s) not change or shower with Adult Participant(s) during In-Program Contact. USA Skateboarding and all Adult Participant(s) ***must*** abide by this request.
3. Media and Championship Celebrations in Locker Rooms
USA Skateboarding may permit recording or photography in locker rooms for the ***exclusive*** purpose of highlighting a sports athletic accomplishment if:
- i. Parent'(s)/guardian'(s) consent has been obtained; and
 - ii. USA Skateboarding approves the specific instance(s) of recording or photography for dissemination; and
 - iii. Two or more Adult Participants are present; and
 - iv. 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 (1)(a)(3) above in this section.
5. Availability and Monitoring of Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces

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- a.** USA Skateboarding must provide a private or semi-private place for Minor Athletes that need to change clothes or undress at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under USA Skateboarding's jurisdiction.
- b.** USA Skateboarding must monitor the use of locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces to ensure compliance with these policies at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under USA Skateboarding's jurisdiction.

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ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS⁵

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 (as defined in Terminology) and meets the following three (3) requirements:
 1. the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Skateboarding 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 USA Skateboarding's background check policy.
- b. Open and Transparent means that the Adult Participant copies or includes the Minor Athlete's parent(s)/guardian(s), 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 that is greater than one then the Adult Participant sending the communication must copy or include the an Adult Participant that is not on the team or the Minor Athlete's(s') parent(s)/guardian(s).

⁵ Electronic communications include, but are not limited to: phone calls, videoconferencing, video coaching, texting, and social media.

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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

Parent(s)/guardian(s) may request in writing that USA Skateboarding or an Adult Participant subject to this policy not contact their Minor Athlete through any form of electronic communication. USA Skateboarding and the Adult Participant(s) must abide by any request to discontinue, absent emergency circumstances.

5. Hours

Electronic communications must 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.

TRANSPORTATION

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. The Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant (as defined in Terminology) and meets the following three (3) requirements:
 1. the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Skateboarding for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and

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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 USA Skateboarding's background check policy; 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(s)/guardian(s).
- b. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent(s)/guardian(s) can withdraw consent in writing, verbally, or physically at any time 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(s)/guardian(s) is required for all transportation sanctioned by USA Skateboarding, at least annually.

2. Shared or Carpool Travel Arrangement

USA Skateboarding encourages parent(s)/guardian(s) to pick up their Minor Athlete first and drop off their Minor Athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement, where another Minor Athlete is in the shared or carpool travel arrangement.

3. Parent Training

Parent(s)/guardian(s) are offered the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to receive or accept transportation from an Adult Participant. If the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) opt out of training, the consent will indicate that the parent has chosen to opt out of training and will be offered through safesporttrained.org.

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LODGING

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 written consent, for the specific lodging arrangement below, is provided by the parent(s)/guardian(s) in advance of the arrangement:
 - i. A Dual Relationship exists; or
 - ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
 - iii. The Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant (as defined in Terminology) and meets the following three (3) requirements:
 1. the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Skateboarding 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 USA Skateboarding's background check policy;
- 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 USA Skateboarding or team performs room checks during In-Program lodging, the one-on-one interaction policy must be followed and at least two Adult Participants must be present for the room checks.

3. Additional Requirements for Lodging Authorized or Funded by USA Skateboarding

- a. Adult Participants traveling with USA Skateboarding must agree to and sign USA Skateboarding'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 the Center's Education & Training Policy and this MAAPP.

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4. Parent Training

Parent(s)/guardian(s) are offered the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to lodge with an adult participant. If the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) opt out of training, the consent will indicate that the parent has chosen to opt out of training and will be offered through safesporttrained.org.

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PART IV

RECOMMENDED POLICIES FOR KEEPING YOUNG ATHLETES SAFE

A. Gifting

Gifts that are equally distributed to all athletes and serve a motivational or education purpose are permitted.

B. 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(s)/Guardian(s) and Minor Athlete's consent.

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TERMINOLOGY

Adult Participant: Any adult (18 years of age or older) who is:

- a. A member or license holder of USA Skateboarding,;
- b. An employee or board member of USA Skateboarding,;
- c. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Skateboarding;
- d. Authorized, approved, or appointed by USA Skateboarding to have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes.⁶

Amateur Athlete: An athlete who meets the eligibility standards established by the National Governing Body or paralympic sports organization for the sport in which the athlete competes.

Authority: When one person's position over another person is such that, based on the totality of the circumstances (looking at the situation as a whole with all factors and viewing the circumstances with favor to athlete protection), 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: USA Skateboarding, PSOs, and the USOPC must submit/include categories of members/individuals that fall under the definition including specific volunteer designations.*

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 another existing role or relationship with a Minor Athlete outside of USA Skateboarding that did not develop or originate with USA Skateboarding and the Minor Athlete's parent(s)/guardian(s) has provided written consent at least annually authorizing the exception.

⁶ This may include volunteers, medical staff, trainers, chaperones, monitors, contract personnel, bus/van drivers, officials, adult athletes, staff, board members, and any other individual who meets the Adult Participant definition.

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

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

Local Affiliated Organization (LAO): A regional, state, or local club or organization that is directly affiliated with USA Skateboarding or that is affiliated with USA Skateboarding by its direct affiliation with a regional or state affiliate of USA Skateboarding. LAO does not include a regional, state, or local club or organization that is only a member of a National Member Organization of USA Skateboarding. USA Skateboarding does not currently have any LAOs.

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, an NGB, PSO, USOPC, or LAO.

Partial or Full Jurisdiction: Includes any sanctioned event (including all travel and lodging in connection with the event) by the NGB, PSO, USOPC, or LAO, or any facility that the NGB, PSO, USOPC, or LAO owns, leases, or rents for practice, training or competition.

National Governing Body (USA Skateboarding): A 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. 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, Pan-American, or Parapan-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

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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.

Paralympic Sport Organization (PSO): A Sport Organization pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. §§ 220501, et seq. 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 Paralympic Games or Parapan-American Games.

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). *NOTE: USA Skateboarding, must submit/include categories of members/individuals that fall under the definition including specific volunteer designations.*

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.