



# SAFETY & RESPONSE POLICY

## EVENT MANDATE

Dear Participant:

Thank you for taking part in a USA Gymnastics sanctioned event. Please read this carefully as it outlines Safety and Response mandates under federal law and Adult Participant's responsibility to report misconduct.

### DUTY TO REPORT

USA Gymnastics, its members, and any adult event worker or volunteer must report (a) any allegations of sexual misconduct involving a minor and (b) child abuse that they become aware of to the local law enforcement authorities **and** the U.S. Center for SafeSport immediately upon learning of such misconduct.

The U.S. Center for SafeSport has **exclusive jurisdiction** over all situations related to sexual misconduct, which must be reported immediately to the Center.

.....  
**To report sexual misconduct**

to the U.S. Center for SafeSport please visit: [uscenterforsafesport.org](http://uscenterforsafesport.org) or 833-5US-SAFE (587-7233)

.....  
**To report emotional misconduct, physical misconduct, bullying, hazing, or MAAPP prevention policy violations**

please contact USA Gymnastics at [usagymconcern.ethicspoint.com](http://usagymconcern.ethicspoint.com).

Permanently Ineligible List



Suspended and Restricted Persons



USA Gymnastics Safety and Response Policy is the foundation for athlete safety and the prevention of abuse. The policy requires mandatory reporting, defines misconduct, and creates standards that set boundaries between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes.

All adult participants of a USA Gymnastics sanctioned event with regular contact and/or authority over minor athletes, must take U110: SafeSport Core Course and pass a background check before contact with Minor Athletes is granted. All credentialed personnel or any personnel with access to minor athletes at an event must be checked against the [Permanently Ineligible](#) and [Suspended/Restricted Persons](#) lists. To view the official "Regular Contact and Authority Over" list, please click [here](#).

USA Gymnastics event staff and volunteers are expected to know and follow all policies related to the safety and welfare of athletes. Because we take the safety of athletes seriously, failure to follow Safety and Response policies could result in restrictions applied by the U.S. Center for SafeSport or USA Gymnastics.

It is the responsibility of all staff and volunteers at USA Gymnastics sanctioned events to read, understand, and follow the USA Gymnastics Safety and Response Policy.

### USA GYMNASTICS SAFETY AND RESPONSE JURISDICTION

USA Gymnastics' jurisdiction covers any Adult Participant during In-Program Contact at any of the following USA Gymnastics activities:

1. Sanctioned competitions or activities;
2. Training activities to include camps and clinics;
3. Travel;
4. Lodging;
5. Pre/post game meals or outings sponsored by the Member Club or USA Gymnastics
6. Off-site outings for teambuilding, socialization, or fundraising sponsored by the Member Club or USA Gymnastics
7. Awards Banquets
8. Medical treatment provided at any event listed above
9. Any other forms of In-Program Contact not noted above.

USA Gymnastics will notify the USOPC's Office of Athlete Safety as soon as possible but not more than 24 hours after learning of an allegation of Prohibited Conduct occurring at a location over which the USOPC has jurisdiction.

Mandate effective August 26, 2022



# USA GYMNASTICS SAFETY & RESPONSE POLICY

## EVENT MANDATE

### USA GYMNASTICS PREVENTION POLICIES HIGHLIGHTS

Prevention policies apply to all Adult Participants at a sanctioned event or authorized by USA Gymnastics to interact with USA Gymnastics athletes while at the event.

Prevention Policies are authorized by the U.S. Center for SafeSport and define prohibited conduct. It is imperative to report any non-criminal misconduct at a meet directly to the Event Director or Event Supervisor, so any situation of misconduct may be addressed immediately. A violation of a USA Gymnastics Prevention Policy is a violation of the SafeSport Code, and must be reported to USA Gymnastics. Event Directors or their designee may address a reported violation of a prevention policy in a manner that resolves the violation for the safety of the athletes, participants, and spectators, but must then report the incident to [USA Gymnastics](#).



### ONE-ON-ONE POLICY

All interactions between an adult and a minor athlete at any USA Gymnastics Event must be **observable** and at a distance allowing **interruption** by another adult. This policy applies to all situations, including training, medical treatments, office meetings, locker rooms, restrooms, social media, travel and lodging.

The only exception to one-on-one policies are athletes who are within four years of age to a minor athlete and have no authority over the athlete, **approved** Dual Relationships and Personal Care Assistants such as interpreters or guides.

To review the one-on-one interactions one page, please click [here](#).



### ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION POLICY

The one-on-one policy applies to all electronic and social media communications. Any communication with a minor should remain professional in nature and include a third party such as the minor's guardian or other professional member of USA Gymnastics.



### MEDICAL MODALITIES

All medical treatments involving a **Minor Athlete** must comply with the one-on-one policy and remain **observable** and **interruptible**, with another **Adult Participant** physically present and in full site of all treatments. Additionally:

- All treatments require prior written consent by the parents of minor athletes (annually) and verbal consent by all athletes before each treatment. An athlete has the right to refuse treatment without question or request a different provider if one is available.
- In the event of an emergency where medical care is necessary to stabilize a condition, the parent or guardian of a minor athlete must be notified and if not onsite, should be notified as soon as reasonably possible to approve any further non-emergency medical treatments.
- Any contact with genitalia, is explicitly forbidden and **must be reported** to legal authorities and the U.S. Center for SafeSport.



### LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS

The one-on-one policy applies at all times to restrooms and changing areas.

- Adult Participants (coaches, judges, event staff, etc.) are not permitted to be alone with any minor athlete in a locker room or changing area. Exceptions will be made for emergency circumstances, athletes who meet the close-in-age exception, adults that qualify as a dual relationship, and personal care assistants.
- Recording of any kind is prohibited in rest rooms and changing areas by **all participants**; including athletes. This includes voice recording, still cameras, and video recording.
- Designated locker rooms and changing areas will be **monitored** on a regular and random basis by Event Director or designee for compliance with this Policy.

To view the Locker Rooms and Changing Areas summary, please click [here](#).



← The USA Gymnastics Safety and Response Policy including prevention policies can be found [here](#).  
The Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) can be found [here](#).



Thank you for being a part of a USA Gymnastics Event.  
If you have any questions related to Safety and Response policy or making a report, please reach out to [response.resolution@usagym.org](mailto:response.resolution@usagym.org) for more information.