

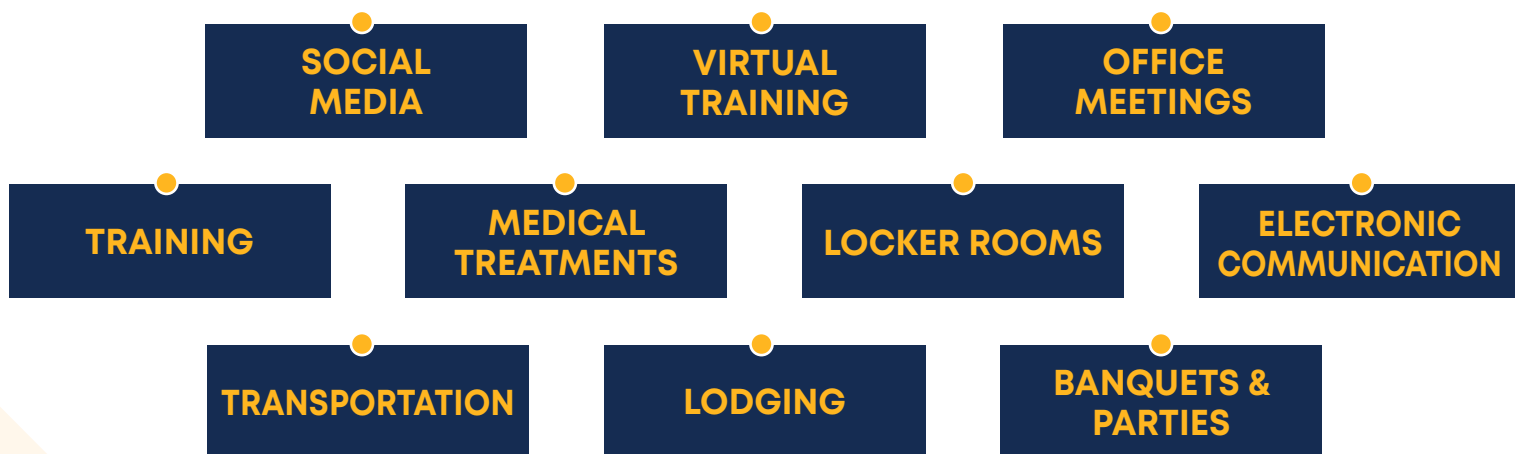


SAFETY & RESPONSE POLICY

ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

One-on-one interaction is defined as one Adult Participant and one Minor Athlete.

One-on-one interactions between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be observable and interruptible unless an approved exception applies.



APPROVED EXCEPTIONS

With the appropriate consent the following exceptions exist for the one-one-one policy:

- **Emergency**
- **Dual Relationship** – The Adult Participant has an existing relationship with Minor Athlete outside of the gymnastics program prior to the start of the coach/athlete relationship.
- **Close-in-Age** – The Adult Participant has no Authority over the Minor Athlete and is not more than 4 years older than the Minor Athlete.
- **Personal Care Assistant** – The Adult Participant is a Personal Care Assistant and has met all the requirements.

**There are no approved exceptions for medical treatments. There must always be another Adult Participant present.*

EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES

Common examples of emergency circumstances are listed below. Please note that this list is not exhaustive, and that Adult Participants must carefully consider whether a specific circumstance meets the threshold of “emergency.” It is also recommended that Adult Participants document emergency situations in accordance with the protocols of their organization.

- **Injury**
- **Weather Emergency**
- **Minor making a report of abuse**
- **Parental Emergency**
- **Last minute changes to schedule**

USA GYMNASTICS SAFETY & RESPONSE POLICY

ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS – COMMON QUESTIONS

1. Can an Adult Participant with authority over Minor Athletes have a team party at their house with Minor Athletes?

- A. Yes. The one-on-one policy is not in violation when there is more than one adult or one minor in any given situation. USA Gymnastics strongly recommends any event that takes place in the home of an Adult Participant to always include parents of the Minor Athletes and limit access to common areas of the home such as the living room, kitchen, or back yard.

2. Can an Adult Participant with authority over Minor Athletes attend a dinner at the home of a Minor Athlete at the parent's request?

- A. Yes. Providing the parents are in attendance and all interactions between the Adult Participant and Minor Athlete remain observable and interruptible, the One-on-One Policy is not violated. A Member Club may set rules that limit this type of interaction between families of the club and staff.

3. Can a coach transport two Minor Athletes alone in a vehicle?

- A. Yes. As long as the Adult Participant has at least two minors or another Adult Participant, they can transport Minor Athletes without violating the One-on-One Policy. The coach is required to sign the club's transportation policy annually and parent sign consent on an annual basis allowing the coach to transport.

4. Must a Minor Athlete who is also employed by their member club to coach recreation classes follow the one-on-one policy?

- A. MAAPP applies only to interactions between a minor athlete and an adult participant like a coach. A Minor Athlete who is a USAG member, or a member of a USAG Member Club, is considered a Participant under the [SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement](#) and must comply with its terms.

5. Would an 18-year-old assistant coach for a team with Minor Athletes ages 15-16 years old meet the Close-in-Age exception?

- A. No. For the Close-in-Age exception to apply, the Adult Participant must have no authority over Minor Athletes. An assistant coach is in a position of authority.

6. Are one-on-one interactions between a coach who is also the uncle of a Minor Athlete on his team allowed?

- A. It depends. If the coach obtained a Dual Relationship consent form from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian, then one-on-one interactions do NOT need to be observable and interruptible. Parents must give written consent annually for such interactions to occur.

7. Is individual training allowed if another adult is watching through a closed-circuit tv monitor, but not in the gym?

- A. No. Individual training must occur in an environment with another adult physically present.

8. What should I do if a Minor Athlete attempts to contact me through my social media account?

- A. If a Minor Athlete attempts contact outside of the approved formats, you should kindly state that it is against Safety and Response Policy for Adult Participants to have one-on-one interactions through social media and all communication must occur in observable environments. All such responses should include either the parent or club management.

9. Can a licensed mental health care professional meet one-on-one with a Minor Athlete at a Member Club or competition?

- A. Yes, however the meeting must be observable and interruptible and conducted by licensed medical practitioners. Closed door meetings are prohibited. In addition, another adult must be present at the facility and notified when the meeting is occurring (athlete's identity need not be disclosed), and the parent or guardian of the Minor Athlete must provide advance written consent using the form found [here](#). Notice of the date and time that such a meeting is scheduled at the Member Club must also be provided to the Club Owner or another person of authority and to the Meet Director for meetings occurring at competitive events in an appropriate place allowing for privacy.

10. If a parent is present in the room when medical treatment occurs, does this satisfy the requirement for a second Adult Participant to be present in the room?

- A. No. There must be a second Adult Participant present in the room who has completed the SafeSport Core Course.

11. If the second Adult Participant is in an adjacent room where they can see the treatment, does this satisfy the requirement for a second Adult Participant to be present during treatment?

- A. No. The second Adult Participant must be in the same room where treatment is being provided.

12. What should I do if a parent doesn't pick their child up and I'm left with the Minor Athlete by themselves?

- A. This is considered an emergency and an exception to the One-on-One Policy. An emergency is a serious, unexpected, and possibly dangerous situation that requires quick action and cannot be avoided. It will be important to document the situation with the details of what happened, communication with the parents, and how the situation was resolved.

13. I need to have a meeting with a Minor Athlete that requires the exchange of sensitive information, may I have a closed-door meeting?

- A. No. In situations requiring a personal conference, the meeting is to be conducted with the knowledge and in view of another adult. Meetings that require an exchange of sensitive information should be documented and communicated with the Minor Athlete's parents.