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# United States Olympic Committee

## Audit Division



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**Report for:**  
**US Sailing**

**Follow-up on:**  
**SafeSport Audit**

**Dated:**  
**January 26, 2018**



January 26, 2018

Jack Gierhart  
Executive Director  
US Sailing Association, Inc.

Dear Jack,

During the second and third quarter of 2017, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause (Baker Tilly) performed a SafeSport audit of US Sailing (Sailing). The purpose of the follow-up review is to report on the status of recommendations from the SafeSport audit of Sailing dated October 2017. Our methodology was limited to communication with Sailing and a review of various policies provided by the organization. The Audit Division did not perform additional audit work to verify action was taken. However, SafeSport will be tested during the routine audit process going forward.

The review found that both recommendations were implemented and are considered closed. Sailing was prompt to implement the two recommendations in the SafeSport audit.

We thank you and your staff for assisting in the follow-up review.

Sincerely,

Bridget Toelle, CPA, CIA  
Senior Director, Audit

Ellen Senf  
Staff Auditor

cc: Scott Blackmun  
Rick Adams  
Gary Johansen  
Chris McCleary

Bruce Burton  
Betsy Alison



## SafeSport Follow-up Report

US Sailing

Follow-up Status	Recommendation	Management Response	Follow-up Action
<p><b>Implemented</b></p>	<p>US Sailing must require that individuals it formally authorizes, approves, or appoints (a) to a position of authority over, or (b) to have frequent contact with athletes complete criminal background checks and education and training requirements in a timely manner and before they have contact with athletes to provide assurance that they are educated on the requirements of the Athlete Safety Standards. US Sailing must consistently track and verify criminal background checks and education and training requirements are met for all required individuals. US Sailing should review the testing results and require all necessary individuals to complete the necessary requirements (i.e., criminal background check and/or education and training).</p>	<p>US Sailing does have a plan in place for full compliance with the SafeSport requirements for background checks and education and training of individuals that US Sailing puts in positions of authority over athletes. Post BOD approval of necessary SafeSport policies, there was a necessary time period required to obtain full compliance which we have done. HR policies have been implemented to require both background checks and SafeSport education and training prior to start date of contract coaches and employees. We agree that at the time of audit that we were not fully compliant but do have the processes in place moving forward.</p>	<p>US Sailing has implemented a process to ensure all required individuals complete SafeSport education and background checks before they have contact with athletes.</p>
<p><b>Implemented</b></p>	<p>US Sailing must require that individuals it formally authorizes, approves, or appoints (a) to a position of authority over, or (b) to have frequent contact with athletes complete criminal background check requirements in a timely manner and before they have contact with athletes to provide assurance that they are following the requirements of the Athlete Safety Standards.</p>	<p>US Sailing acknowledges that a review of SafeSport Handbook and other documentation with regard to application of SafeSport policy is worthwhile. However, please note that US Sailing does recognize that SafeSport policy is not restricted to interaction with minor athletes but with all athletes participating in the sport over which individuals are placed in positions of authority over athletes and we believe our current policies reflect that.</p>	<p>US Sailing revised its policy in January 2018 to address the recommendation.</p>