INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Center for SafeSport (the Center) and USA Diving are committed to building a sport community where participants can work and learn together in an atmosphere free of emotional, physical, and sexual misconduct.

Authority: prevention training and policies

Federal law authorizes the Center to address the risk of emotional, physical, and sexual abuse of amateur athletes in the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movements. See Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017.

Prevention Training

Federal law authorizes the Center to develop training to prevent abuse, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, of any amateur athlete. At a minimum, national governing bodies and paralympic sports organizations must offer and give consistent training related to the prevention of child abuse to: (1) adult members who are in regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors and (2) subject to parental consent, to members who are minors.

Prevention Policies

Federal law also authorizes the Center to develop policies and procedures for implementation by national governing bodies or paralympic sports organizations to prevent abuse, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, of any amateur athlete. As a part of these policies and procedures, national governing bodies and paralympic sports organizations must implement reasonable procedures to limit one-on-one interactions between an amateur athlete who is a minor and an adult (who is not the minor’s legal guardian) at a facility under the jurisdiction of a national governing body or paralympic sports organization without being in an observable and interruptible distance from another adult, except under emergency circumstances.

Application and implementation

The U.S. Olympic Committee and national governing bodies (collectively, “Covered Organizations”) are required to follow these Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies. At a minimum, these policies are also strongly recommended for National Member Organizations and Local Affiliated Organizations, and, at a maximum, the NGBs may require said organizations to follow them. Covered Organizations are responsible for implementing and monitoring compliance with these policies.

The policies and procedures set forth herein are promulgated by the Center to assist Covered Organizations in meeting their obligations under federal law. If, in implementing the required components identified here, these Covered Organizations are nonetheless not in compliance with

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federal requirements, the Organization shall implement policies and procedures sufficient to meet such requirements.
TERMINOLOGY

Covered Organizations: The U.S. Olympic Committee and a national governing body.

Jurisdiction: Authority or control.

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

Minor, child or minor athlete: An amateur athlete under 18 years of age.

National Governing Body (NGB): An amateur sports organization affiliated with a sport included on the program of the Olympic, Paralympic, or Pan-American Games, which is also recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. §§ 220501-220529. This definition shall also apply to the USOC, or other sports entity approved by the USOC, when they have assumed responsibility for the management and/or governance of a sport included on the program of the Olympic, Paralympic, or Pan-American Games.

National Member Organization: A national organization that is directly affiliated with a NGB, over which the NGB has jurisdiction (without respect to whether the NGB has disciplinary authority over individual members of that national organization), and is: (a) an Amateur Sports Organization requesting sanction from a NGB; or (b) an Applicable Amateur Sports Organization under the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017.
PART II
USA DIVING REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICIES

A. Required policies

Covered Organizations are required to implement the following athlete prevention policies by June 23, 2019:

1. One-on-One Interactions, including meetings and individual training sessions (Covered Organizations are required to establish reasonable procedures to limit one-on-one interactions, as set forth in federal law).
2. Massages and rubdowns/athletic training modalities
3. Locker rooms and changing areas
4. Social media and electronic communications
5. Local travel
6. Team travel.

To satisfy these requirements, these policies (including the mandatory components identified in the model policies) are strongly recommended for implementation by National Member Organizations and Local Affiliated Organizations, and NGBs may require them to do so.

B. Model policies

To satisfy these requirements, the Center provides model policies to assist Covered Organizations in developing and implementing the required policies. These model policies include mandatory components (which any policy must, at a minimum, include) and recommended components. Given the uniqueness of each sport, some recommended components may not be appropriate or feasible. Covered Organizations may choose to implement stricter standards consistent with the implementation guidance below. Stricter standards may include applying the policy to additional constituents and may also include additional restrictions.

If a Covered Organization does not develop its own policy, the mandatory components will become the default policy for the Covered Organization.

C. Implementation

The mandatory components set forth in the model policies set a minimum standard. In implementing the required policies, a Covered Organization may choose to implement a policy that is stricter than the Model Policy, if it includes or is stricter than the mandatory

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If, in implementing the required policies identified here, Covered Organizations are not in compliance with federal requirements, the organization shall implement policies and procedures sufficient to meet such requirements.

1. Approval process

If a Covered Organization proposes a policy that varies from the policies provided herein, such policies must be submitted to ngbservices@safesport.org for review and approval. Covered Organizations must submit proposed policies to the Center by March 23, 2019. Policies will be approved, approved with modification or denied by the Center. If the proposed policy is denied by the Center, the mandatory components of the model policy will continue to serve as the default unless and until the Center approves any future proposed policy.

D. Minor divers who become adult divers

With the exception of divers who are members of the same team, minor divers who reach the age of majority (i.e. 18 years of age) must adhere to the provisions found in the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies when interacting with minor divers who are 14 years of age or younger.

Minor divers who reach the age of majority and then obtain a position of authority that presents a power imbalance, such as becoming a coach or official, must also comply with these prevention policies regardless of the age of the minor divers with whom they will interact.