Safe Sport at Events for Race Director

Introduction

USA Triathlon and USA Triathlon constituents, including Race Directors, must follow USA Triathlon’s Athlete Safety Policies as well as the policies and procedures of the U.S. Center for SafeSport. The updated SafeSport Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies require a number of safeguards be put into place at sanctioned events. This policy outlines the requirements that all USA Triathlon sanctioned events must follow.

Most notably, one-on-one contact should be avoided with minor athletes at events. If one-on-one contact is necessary, it must be observable and interruptible.

Communications

Prior to the event, the Race Director must send out an email to the participants of the event. This list must include:

- Athletes,
- Staff,
- Contractors (including bike technicians),
- Officials,
- Medical support,
- Timers,
- Volunteers,
- USADA chaperones,
- Camera crew,
- Announcers, and
- Media personnel.

This email must include: the key tenants of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Plan (MAAPP), a link to the USA Triathlon SafeSport policy, and an explanation of mandatory reporting requirements. A template of this communication is available in Appendix A of this document.

Quality Control System: Training and Education

Race Directors must ensure that individuals with regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes have completed a SafeSport training within the 12 months prior to event. Race Directors must collect the certificate of completion from all the necessary individuals. If an individual does not have SafeSport
training, or is not able to log in to their SafeSport account, the Race Director or the individual should email the Race Director and Member Relationship Assistant Manager at Todd.Brewer@usatriathlon.org.

Regular Contact is defined as 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).

Authority is when one person’s position over another person is such that, based on the totality of the circumstances, they have the power or right to direct, control, give orders to, or make decisions for that person.

Quality Control System: Banned List

Any individual banned from USA Triathlon may not participate in any USA Triathlon event in any capacity. Participation includes such roles as: athletes, volunteers, officials, bike technicians, life guards, USADA chaperones, or anyone else contracted to work at the event. As such, the Race Director, or a member of their team, must check the participants against the banned list prior to the event. As many events have same day registration or volunteers who show up day-of, the Race Director or their staff should provide a list of the banned individuals to anyone checking participants in, and advise those individuals to check IDs.

If a member of the Banned List attempts to participate in an event, the Race Director should notify Risk and Compliance Coordinator at Emily.Hewitt@usatriathlon.org following the event.

The list of individuals permanently banned by USA Triathlon is available on the USA Triathlon website. A list of those both temporarily and permanently banned by USA Triathlon or the Center for SafeSport is updated monthly and distributed to Race Directors with this document.

Participant List

Following the event, the Race Director must share the list of participants with the Race Director and Member Relationship Assistant Manager. The participant list must include: athletes, staff, volunteers, contractors, timers, bike technicians, life guards, and any other individual who had a role at the event.

Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP)

The MAAPP must be enforced at all USA Triathlon sanctioned events. The MAAPP is made up of seven main policies intended to limit the opportunity for risk for minor athletes at events. These policies are available on the USA Triathlon website (it’s not on the website yet but I will request it to be put on and we can link to it here). The Race Director and their staff must inform participants at the event of these policies no more than 30 days in advance of the competition.

The key policy of the MAAPP is that one-on-one contact with minor athletes should be avoided. If one-on-one contact with a minor athlete is required, it must be observable and interruptible.

Bathroom and Locker Room Monitoring

Multi-person bathrooms and all locker rooms must be randomly and regularly monitored by members of the Race Director’s team. The bathrooms and locker rooms should have signage to let participants know that these spaces will be monitored. The monitors should check for any signs of abuse or misconduct.

Reporting
All adult participants at USA Triathlon events are mandatory reporters. If an individual witnesses any form of abuse – including sexual, physical or emotional – they must report it to the Center within 24 hours. USA Triathlon recommends putting signage with the ways to report up around the venue.

Reports can be made online at SafeSport.org or by calling 833-587-7233.
APPENDIX A

SAMPLE COMMUNICATIONS:

Dear NAME,

The U.S. Center for SafeSport created the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP), a collection of proactive prevention and training policies for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement to help create a safer and healthier environment in which minor athletes can thrive.

The MAAPP was originally released in 2019 to support organizations and individuals in preventing abuse in sport and meeting requirements under federal law. As a member of USA Triathlon and participant at a USA Triathlon event, you are required to follow these policies.

The MAAPP focuses on in-program contact between an adult participant and a minor athlete, and covers the following Required Prevention Policies: One-on-One Interaction, Meeting and Training Sessions, Athletic Training Modalities, Massages and Rubdowns, Locker Rooms and Changing Areas, Electronic Communications, Transportation, and Lodging.

One-on-One Interaction, Athletic Training Modalities, Massages and Rubdowns, Locker Rooms and Changing Areas apply at all facilities or locations that are partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USA Triathlon. Partial or full jurisdiction includes the following:

- Any sanctioned event or competition by USA Triathlon
- Any facility that USA Triathlon owns, leases, or rents for competition, training or practices
- Any hotel or lodging that the team is using when traveling to a sanctioned USA Triathlon event or competition

All of the Required Prevention Policies must be followed by:

- Adult participants of USA Triathlon who have regular contact with minor athletes
- Adult participants authorized by USA Triathlon to have regular contact with minor athletes
- Adult participants authorized by USA Triathlon to have authority over minor athletes
- Adult staff and board members at USA Triathlon

One-on-One Interaction, Athletic Training Modalities, Massages and Rubdowns, Locker Rooms and Changing Areas ALSO need to be followed by:

- Any adult participant at a facility that is partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USA Triathlon.

In preparation for the upcoming EVENT NAME, DATE, where the MAAPP will be enforced, please review the comprehensive MAAPP overview here. To read the complete USA Triathlon Athlete Safety Policy, please click here.

As a reminder, all adult participants – including those with one-day memberships – are Mandatory Reporters. If you see or hear a report of any form of abuse, whether it is sexual, physical, mental or another type of abuse you are required to report that abuse within a 24-hour period. You can file a report to the Center through its online reporting form or by calling the Center at 833-587-7233.
If you have any additional questions or concerns, please email SafeSport@usatriathlon.org.

Thank you,
NAME