



USA FIELD HOCKEY: MINOR
ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION
POLICIES



USA Field Hockey Education and Training Policy

Members that are required to complete mandatory SafeSport Training:

- Adult members at USA Field Hockey or their member clubs who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors
- An adult authorized by USA Field Hockey or their member clubs to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor
- Adult staff and board members of USA Field Hockey (with the exception member clubs whose adult staff and board members have no contact with or authority over minor athletes).

Core Center for SafeSport Training

The above listed adults that are members of USA Field Hockey are required to complete training concerning child abuse prevention. No later than March 23, 2019, the above listed adults at USA Field Hockey who are not currently in good standing with their NGB due to failure to complete required training must complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport's Core Center for SafeSport Training (i.e., the Center's online training or the Center's approved in-person training; NGB access to the Center's Core training is detailed in Appendix A):

- Before regular contact with an amateur athlete who is a minor begins; or
- Within the first 45 days of initial membership, or upon beginning a new role subjecting the adult to this policy.

Training other than the Core Center for SafeSport Training does not satisfy USA Field Hockey's Education and Training Policy and requirements.

Refresher Courses

A refresher course is required on an annual basis for those that are required to complete mandatory SafeSport Training. Refresher courses must be completed the calendar year following (and each year after) the completion of the Core Center for SafeSport Training for each of the above listed adults at a Covered Organization.

Minor Athletes

USA Field Hockey shall, subject to parental consent, annually offer and give training to members who are minors regarding prevention and reporting of child abuse. USA Field Hockey shall track:

- A description of the training(s);
- The date the training(s) was offered and given; and
- A description of how the training(s) was offered and given.

USA Field Hockey One-On-One Interactions Policy

Applicable Adults

The One-on-One interactions policy shall apply to:

- 1) Adult members at a facility that is either partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USA Field Hockey;
- 2) Adult members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors;
- 3) Any adult authorized by USA Field Hockey to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
- 4) Adult staff, board and committee members of USA Field Hockey.

Observable and interruptible

One-on-one interactions between a minor athlete and an Applicable Adult (who is not the minor's legal guardian) at a facility partially or fully under USA Field Hockey's jurisdiction are permitted if they occur at an observable and interruptible distance by another adult.

Meetings

Meetings between Applicable Adults and minor athletes at a facility partially or fully under USA Field Hockey's jurisdiction may only occur if another adult is present, except under emergency circumstances. Such meetings must occur where interactions can be easily observed and at an interruptible distance from another adult. If a one-on-one meeting takes place in an office at a facility partially or fully under USA Field Hockey's jurisdiction, the door to the office must remain unlocked and open. If available, it will occur in an office that has windows, with the windows, blinds, and/or curtains remaining open during the meeting.

Meetings with mental health care professionals and health care providers

If a mental health care professional and/or health care provider meets with minor athletes at a facility partially or fully under our jurisdiction, a closed-door meeting may be permitted to protect patient privacy provided that: (1) the door remains unlocked; (2) another adult is present at the facility; (3) the other adult is advised that a closed-door meeting is occurring; and (4) written legal guardian consent is obtained in advance by the mental health care professional and/or health care provider, with a copy provided to our organization.

Individual Training Sessions

Individual training sessions between Applicable Adults and minor athletes are permitted at a facility partially or fully under our jurisdiction if the training session is observable and interruptible by another adult. It is the responsibility of the Applicable Adult to obtain the written permission of the minor's legal guardian in advance of the individual training session if the individual training session is not observable and interruptible by another adult. Permission for individual training sessions must be obtained at least every six months. Parents, guardians, and other caretakers must be allowed to observe the training session.

Monitoring

When one-on-one interactions between Applicable Adults and minor athletes occur at a facility partially or fully under our jurisdiction, Applicable Adults will monitor these interactions. Monitoring

includes: knowing that the one-on-one interaction is occurring, the approximate planned duration of the interaction, and randomly dropping in on the one-on-one.

USA Field Hockey Massage and Rubdowns/Athletic Training Modality Policy

Applicable Adults

The Massage and Rubdowns/Athletic Training Modality Policy shall apply to:

1. Any adult authorized by USA Field Hockey or their Member Clubs to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
2. USA Field Hockey Staff, Board of Director and Executive Committee Members

Massage and Rubdowns/Athletic Training Modality

Any massage or rubdown/athletic training modality performed at a facility or a training or competition venue must be conducted in an open and interruptible location. Any massage of a minor athlete must be done with at least one other adult present and must never be done with only the minor athlete and the person performing the massage or rubdown/athletic training modality in the room.

Written Consent

Written consent by a legal guardian shall be provided before providing each massage or rubdown/athletic training modality on a minor athlete. Parents must be permitted to be in the room as an observer.

USA Field Hockey Locker Room and Changing Areas Policy

Applicable Adults

The Locker Room and Changing Areas Policy shall apply to:

1. Any adult authorized by USA Field Hockey or their Member Clubs to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
2. USA Field Hockey Staff, Board of Director and Executive Committee Members

Non-exclusive facility

If our organization uses a facility not fully under USA Field Hockey's jurisdiction (for, e.g., training or competition or similar events) and the facility is used by multiple constituents, Applicable Adults are nonetheless required to adhere to the rules set forth herein.

Use of recording devices

Use of any device's (including a cell phone's) recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras in locker rooms, changing areas, or similar spaces at a facility under USA Field Hockey's jurisdiction is prohibited. Exceptions may be made for media and championship celebrations, provided that such exceptions are approved by the Covered Organization or the LAO and two or more Applicable Adults are present.

Undress

Under no circumstances shall an unrelated Applicable Adult at a facility under USA Field Hockey's jurisdiction intentionally expose his or her breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals to a minor athlete.

One-on-one interactions

- Except for athletes on the same team, at no time are unrelated Applicable Adults permitted to be alone with a minor athlete in a locker room or changing area when at a facility under USA Field Hockey's partial or full jurisdiction, except under emergency circumstances.
- If USA Field Hockey is using a facility that only has a single locker room or changing area, we will designate separate times for use by Applicable Adults, if any.

Monitoring

USA Field Hockey member clubs regularly and randomly monitor the use of locker rooms and changing areas at facilities under our jurisdiction to ensure compliance with these policies.

Emergency Situations

Applicable Adults make every effort to recognize when a minor athlete goes to the locker room or changing area during practice and competition and, if they do not return in a timely fashion, will check on the minor athlete's whereabouts.

We discourage parents from entering locker rooms and changing areas unless it is truly necessary. In those instances, it should only be a same-sex parent when other minor athletes are changing in the same locker room or changing area. If this is necessary, parents should let a coach or administrator know about this in advance.

USA Field Hockey Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy

Applicable Adults

The Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy shall apply to:

1. Any adult authorized by USA Field Hockey or their Member Clubs to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
2. USA Field Hockey Staff, Board of Director and Executive Committee Members

Content

All electronic communication originating from Applicable Adults to minor athletes must be professional in nature.

Open and transparent

- Absent emergency circumstances, if an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes needs to communicate directly with a minor athlete via electronic communications (including social media), another Applicable Adult or the minor's legal guardian will be copied.
- If a minor athlete communicates to the Applicable Adult (with authority over the minor athlete) privately first, said Applicable Adult should respond to the minor athlete with a copy to another Applicable Adult or the minor's legal guardian.
- When an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes communicates electronically to the entire team, said Applicable Adult will copy another adult.
- Minor athletes may "friend" the organization's official page.

Requests to discontinue

Legal guardians may request in writing that their minor athlete not be contacted through any form of electronic communication by USA Field Hockey, USA Field Hockey's Member Clubs or by the Applicable Adults subject to this policy. The organization will abide by any such request that their minor athlete not be contacted via electronic communication, absent emergency circumstances.

Hours

Electronic communications will generally only be sent between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., unless emergency circumstances exist, or while traveling internationally or during competition travel.

Monitoring

- USA Field Hockey and USA Field Hockey's Member Clubs monitors its social media pages and removes any posts that violate the organization's policies and practices for appropriate behavior.
- USA Field Hockey and USA Field Hockey's Member Clubs will inform the legal guardian of a minor athlete of any prohibited posts, as well as the organization's administrator.

Prohibited electronic communications

Applicable Adults with authority over minor athletes are not permitted to maintain private social media connections with unrelated minor athletes and such Applicable Adults are not permitted to accept new personal page requests on social media platforms from amateur athletes who are minors, unless the Applicable Adult has a fan page, or the contact is deemed as celebrity contact vs. regular contact. Existing social media connections on personal pages with minor athletes shall be discontinued.

USA Field Hockey Local Travel Policy

Applicable Adults

The Local Travel Policy shall apply to:

1. Any adult authorized by USA Field Hockey or their Member Clubs to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
2. USA Field Hockey Staff, Board of Director and Executive Committee Members

Transportation

Applicable Adults who are not also acting as a legal guardian, shall not ride in a vehicle alone with an unrelated minor athlete, absent emergency circumstances, and must have at least two minor athletes or another adult present at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor athlete's parent/legal guardian in advance of each local travel.

Shared or Carpool Travel Arrangement

USA Field Hockey encourages parents/legal guardians to pick up their minor athlete first and drop off their minor athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement.

USA Field Hockey Team Travel Policy

Applicable Adults

The Team Travel Policy shall apply to:

1. Any adult authorized by USA Field Hockey or their Member Clubs to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
2. USA Field Hockey Staff, Board of Director and Executive Committee Members

Team/competition travel

When only one Applicable Adult and one minor athlete travel to a competition, the minor athlete must have his/her legal guardian's written permission in advance and for each competition to travel alone with said Applicable Adult.

Hotel rooms

Applicable Adults shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a minor athlete (unless the Applicable Adult is the legal guardian, sibling, or is otherwise related to the minor athlete). However, a parent/legal guardian may consent to such an arrangement in advance and in writing. Furthermore, a parent/legal guardian may consent in advance and in writing to the minor athlete sharing a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with an adult athlete.

Meetings

Meetings shall be conducted consistent with the organization's policy for one-on-one interactions (i.e., any such meeting shall be observable and interruptible).

Team Travel Policies

Team travel policies must be signed and agreed to by all minor athletes, parents, and Applicable Adults traveling with the organization.

Traveling Adult Requirements

Applicable Adults who travel with the organization must successfully pass a criminal background check and other screening requirements consistent with the organization's policies.

Room Checks

During team travel, when doing room checks, attending team meetings and/or other activities, two Applicable Adults should be present and observable and interruptible environments should be maintained.

Meetings

Meetings should not be conducted in a hotel room.

Education

Parents/legal guardians receive education concerning child abuse prevention before providing consent for their minor athlete to travel alone with an Applicable Adult who is subject to these policies.