



Coach Background Check Information

Background Checks and SafeSport Training - last year our League Council voted on new measures to enforce existing DoD¹ and EFSL² requirements that all coaches, and any other volunteers (as determined by their teams) who have close and continuing contact with youth athletes, have a current background check, and to require all coaches and team-identified volunteers to take annual Youth Athlete Protection/SafeSport Training (or its equivalent) to bring the EFSL inline with all other major swimming organizations³ and to ensure Youth Athlete Protection is a priority.

USA Swimming, as well as other FINA Swimming Federation non-athlete or coach certifications, meet this requirement.

Background Checks will be considered good for TWO years unless otherwise stated on the credentials. Only the certification/verification of the successful background check needs to be submitted, **not the entire document**.

Volunteers a team might determine also require background checks/Athlete Protection training might include: Locker room monitor, travel chaperones, volunteer supervising athletes overnight.

Certifications must be submitted to the league NLT 15 Sept (or one month after becoming a coach) and you will not be allowed on deck at an EFSL sanctioned regular-season or championship meet if you have not submitted your certifications. Certifications are not required for parents acting as a coach on a one-time basis when no team coach travels to a meet.

Certifications will be submitted as part of your EFSL registration using this form:

<https://form.jotform.com/221922808936160>

Further information about the requirements can be found in Appendix 1 of the [EFSL Bylaws](#).

¹ DoD Instruction 1402.5 and <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/140205p.pdf> and Air Force Instruction 34-223 https://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af_a1/publication/afi34-223/afi34-223.pdf

² European Forces Swim League Constitution Article 201.3 https://www.teamunify.com/efsl/UserFiles/Image/QuickUpload/efsl-constitution-rev-2022-01_088850.pdf
European Forces Swim League Bylaws, Appendix 1 https://www.teamunify.com/efsl/UserFiles/Image/QuickUpload/efsl-bylaws-rev-2022-07_012144.pdf

³ USA Swimming https://www.usaswimming.org/docs/default-source/safe-sportdocuments/3.-complete-requirements/a.-initiate-a-background-check/usa-swimming-background-check-policy_update.pdf
https://www.usaswimming.org/docs/default-source/safe-sportdocuments/3.-complete-requirements/a.-initiate-a-background-check/background-check-program-faq.pdf?sfvrsn=6b703432_10



EFSL Coach Background Check and Athlete Protection Requirements

*This requirement can be met by submitting **ONE** of the following:*

1) License, membership credentials, or accreditation from a FINA-affiliated swimming federation, national sport federation or other equivalent organization which includes a background check, athlete protection training and certification that the coach has not been placed on suspension or banned by any athletic organizations for dangerous behavior. (e.g., Current USA Swimming DeckPass Non-Athlete or Coach membership card meets this requirement).

For those who wish to go through USA Swimming (must have US Address/APO and US SSN) you can use the [non-athlete membership form](#) and submit via email to [Denise Thomas](mailto:Denise.Thomas@usaswimming.org) at denise.thomas@usaswimming.org - Instead of submitting a check you can include your credit card information on the bottom of this form to cover the fees.

-OR-

2) Athlete Protection Training Certificate + Background Check + SafeSport Database search with negative results

Acceptable sources of Athlete Protection training would include US SafeSport, British Swimming Wavepower 2020-23, EU Pro Safe Sport or another FINA-affiliated swimming federation. Courses purchased directly through US Center for Safe Sport are \$10 and can be purchased in bulk for a team.

EU:

<https://rm.coe.int/prems-146217-pochette-file-training-kit-to-prevent-and-react-to-situat/16807b869d>

US Safe Sport:

<https://uscenterforsafesport.org/training-and-education/training-and-education-services/>

British Swimming:

<https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/wavepower-child-safeguarding-for-clubs/>

German Olympic Sports Confederation (Deutsche Olympische Sportbund):

<https://safesport.dosb.de>

Background Checks can be run by local police, [Intellicorp](#), military installation, or other similar organizations and should include the following typical provisions:

- *a search of national criminal and sex offender databases on the name provided and all former last names found within the seven-year address history*
- *a search of other watch lists from various national and international databases on the name provided and up to four former last names found within the seven-year address history*



- *a county or local criminal search in locality of current residence on the name provided and one former last name*
- *a county or local criminal search in all counties of residence within the seven-year address history on the name provided and one former last name*
- *a national court search on the name provided and one former last name*
- *Evidence of any of the following felonies or misdemeanors would result in a disqualification to act in a role with close contact to swimmers:*
 - a. *violence against a person*
 - b. *violent crimes involving weapons (including armed robbery and aggravated assault with a weapon)*
 - c. *all sexual crimes*
 - d. *drug use or possession, (including the use of drug paraphernalia) within the previous 3 years*
 - e. *other drug related crimes including drug distribution, intent to distribute, manufacturing, trafficking, or sale within the previous 7 years*
 - f. *child endangerment, neglect or abuse*
 - g. *Violence against a person (including crimes involving firearms), prostitution, indecent exposure, and public indecency, stalking or harassment, destruction of property, including arson, vandalism, and criminal mischief*

Safe Sport Database search is quick and easy.

Visit <https://uscenterforsafesport.org/response-and-resolution/centralized-disciplinary-database/> and enter the coach's first and last name. Take a screenshot of the "Sorry, no matching records found" search results and submit along with other documents on the EFSL registration form:

<https://form.jotform.com/221922808936160>

NOTE: If you run your background check through USA Swimming/Intellicorp you can use an APO address but their form will not recognize the APO/FPO as the city, AE as the State or the APO/FPO zip code. You can force the address into the 2nd line of the address field and just pick any city and NY as the state. Background check should take 2-3 business days. They are aware of the issue and we've run a test with this method and it was successful.

Questions?

POC: League Head Coach Kate Morgans leaguecoach@europeanforcesswimleague.com