

In this Newsletter

Volume 15
February 2016

1. Welcome
2. New LSC Safe Sport Chairs
3. Safe Sport Updates
4. Safe Sport Events
5. Resources
6. Reminders
7. Safe Sport Awareness

Mark Your Calendar

4.22.2016 through 4.24.2016
Safe Sport Workshop
Denver, Colorado

6.1.2016 :: Last day to submit Safe Sport Impact Award nominees

13 Helpful Links

1. [USA Swimming Safe Sport](#)
2. [USA Swimming Education](#)
3. [USOC Safe Sport](#)
4. [Stop It Now! Child Sexual Abuse Prevent](#)
5. [National Children's Advocacy Center](#)
6. [Stop bullying](#)
7. [National Center for Missing and Exploited Children](#)
8. [Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network](#)
9. [Child Welfare League of America](#)
10. [Safe 4 Athletes](#)
11. [radKIDS](#)
12. [National Children's Advocacy Center Lookup](#)
13. [Safe Horizon](#)

USA Swimming Safe Sport Contacts

Susan Woessner,
Director of Safe Sport

USA Swimming Safe Sport Newsletter

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a foundation that allows for direct on-going communication with each of you. Information contained within will cover the most current Safe Sport related information. If you have any feedback, comments or suggestions, please e-mail us at athleteprotection@usaswimming.org.

Welcome New LSC Safe Sport Chairs

We extend a warm welcome to our 18 new LSC Safe Sport Chairs. They join a strong team of 45 current Safe Sport Champions for a total of 63 Safe Sport Chairs to date. Safe Sport resources are available on www.usaswimming.org under Member Resources Programs & Services. Susan, Liz, and Maggie in the USA Swimming Safe Sport office also are available to answer any questions or concerns you may have. You have joined the nationwide Safe Sport Champions who educate our coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, and athletes on creating and maintaining a safe environment for the athletes. We look forward to meeting you!

Engagement Strategies

USA Swimming's Safe Sport program is entering its sixth year and this year we will be working on increasing local level engagement within the LSCs. We will accomplish this utilizing a three strategy approach.

The first area will be to increase the number of Safe Sport champions we have. We will do this through creating a LSC Chairs Support Sub-committee that will work on executing regular training opportunities and opening communication paths to current and new champions. We will also name and activate Safe Sport Zone Chairs to disseminate educational material to our champions and then gather feedback about that material.

Second, we will be focusing on ways to encourage and support club leadership. A few ways we will do this is through the new Safe Sport self-assessment tool. This tool is a way for clubs to gauge where they are and to provide support and guidance to increase Safe Sport engagement. We will also incentivize clubs with the Safe Sport Certified Club Program, a program to be launch later this year. There will also be a re-write of the current Safe Sport Handbook planned to be released this year.

The final approach is to use swim meets as engagement opportunities.

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Promotional materials will continue to be made that champions can use at swim meets.

This year will be a busy but fulfilling year for the Safe Sport community and we are looking forward to working with each and every one of you to make strides in our goal of increasing local level engagement.

Safe Sport Updates

Safe Sport Fellowship Program! The first leadership institute for the four athlete fellows was held the weekend of January 29-31st. The fellows, Maggie Baker (AM), Colin Brady (IL), Consi Faling (NE) and Breandan Gibbons (MN), worked hard for the 2 days they were at the Olympic Training Center, honing in on their very different leadership skills and preparing Safe Sport projects to take back to their LSCs. These athletes far exceeded what we expected and they are going to do great things in their swimming communities. Stay tuned for more details about what they are up to.

Safe Sport Events

April Workshop! Mark your calendars for the Safe Sport Workshop in Denver, Colorado at the Denver Gateway Marriott during the weekend of April 22 -24. If possible, please plan to arrive at the hotel on Friday no later than 5 P.M. and to depart the hotel no earlier than 2 P.M. on Sunday. A social for all attending the weekend is planned for Friday from 5-7 P.M. with a possible meeting from 7-9 P.M. Saturday and Sunday will be filled with training and a workshop time. USA Swimming is hosting all the meals as well as the lodging. Each LSC is responsible for round trip transportation. Look for the registration forms to be emailed to you by the end of the month. This workshop is meant for all LSC Safe Sport Chairs. Please plan to attend and continue to learn more about Safe Sport while connecting with the Safe Sport Team of Champions. This workshop offers a fabulous opportunity to share ideas, to take away new material, and to develop relationships. See you in Denver!

Resources

Safe Sport Materials Order Form! Safe Sport Materials Order Form! There are many Safe Sport materials available to you to increase Safe Sport awareness in your LSC. Bag Tags, posters, meet announcements, parent cards, stickers, tabling kit, all of these are available to you on the website at www.usaswimming.org/toolkit. You can also order any of these directly from USA Swimming by contacting Paula D'Amico at pdamico@usaswimming.org.

Reminders

Webinars! Is someone in your LSC doing good work for Safe Sport? (Maybe it's you) We'd love for you to share your experience and advice

about implementing Safe Sport at the local level by contributing to a webinar. If you're interested in facilitating or co-facilitating a webinar about good work going on, please contact Maggie Vail at mvail@usaswimming.org.

Our most recent webinar was held on January 27th. Director of Safe Sport, Susan Woessner, talked about the Safe Sport Program and the complaints process. If you could not attend the webinar you can view it and any other at your leisure [here](#). Tune in to the next Safe Sport webinar in April, topic TBD.

Safe Sport Impact Award! We are now accepting applications for the 2016 [Safe Sport Impact Award](#). The Purpose of this award is to recognize significant contributions by an individual or group who has contributed to the fulfillment of the Safe Sport Committee mission: To safeguard all members of USA Swimming from sexual, psychological emotional and physical abuse. This award will be presented at the United States Aquatic Sports Convention this year in Atlanta, Georgia. Nominations will be accepted through June 1st. To access the nomination form please go [here](#).

Safe Sport Awareness

Maryland Incentive Program! Pat Kaplan, Maryland Swimming's LSC administrator, organized a contest between clubs in their LSC to generate engagement from parents. During the month of January, parents of swimmers were encouraged to take the Safe Sport Parent Training. They had some fantastic results! At the end of the month they had 1,842 parents take the On Line Training, 8 clubs had at least 1 parent in each household take the training and 29 of their 41 age group clubs actively participated. The highest participating teams won pizza party's paid for by the LSC. The LSC also had some Safe Sport swag that they used as give aways. Fantastic job Pat and Maryland Swimming!

If you have any Safe Sport projects you are working on please let us know. We would like to give you recognition as well!

Please continue to follow us on Twitter [@SwimSafeSport](#) and on Facebook at [USA Swimming Safe Sport](#).

You can find previous Newsletters [here](#).

You can find all webinars available from the Online Coaches Clinic [here](#).



The material in this e-mail is provided for educational and informational purposes only and does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement with respect to any company or product. One of the objectives of the USA Swimming Club Development News is to make coaches aware of potential resources available.

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