



March 1, 2017

Rebecca Landre

Sierra Nevada swimming has been making consistent and positive strides in the arena of Safe Sport. Three specific highlights:

1. **What I do:** I've traveled to teams and do on-site training with athletes, coaches, parents and team board leaders. This has probably taken 50% of my time. Traveling to teams that invite me to teach about Safe Sport and their responsibility has been very successful. I have conducted training at WAC, SASO, CCA, Vacaville, leadership camps and have the Mavericks scheduled. Additionally, I work with USA swimming to assist in the development of Safe Sport tools and resources for officials. I've been asked to lead our Zone in coordinating Safe Sport activity and synchronized program implementation. Dave Coddington asked for me to present at convention a review of Safe Sport for the Western Zone.
2. **My training:** I traveled to Denver for 3 days of rigorous Safe Sport leadership training. Topics included: FBI: Why do kids disclose, Engaging Safe Sport trainers and volunteers, Making it safe to talk about Safe Sport, Sexting: moving beyond scandal to opportunity.
3. **Telephone and email activity:** This takes up the other 50% of my times. I spend time talking (email, telephone, one on one) with head to coaches, team leaders, athletes and parents to answer their questions about Safe Sport and help them get the resources that they need.

My two main goals are still working with our Safe Sport committee. Unfortunately, not much progress has been made here but, it will happen and we have a great team. My other goal is to have our LSC lead in the Zone at the implementation of the marshal role.

Summary: Initially, Safe Sport was a bit awkward and overwhelming. Coaches, parents etc., were in an uncomfortable situation as talking about these things had be done by team on a consistent bases. People began looking around and questioning behavior and actions. There were even well intentioned vigilante efforts. With ongoing training and education, there seems to be a growing understanding of the benefits of this program. We were expected to immediately adopt new athlete protection policies and a new code of conduct. It has taken time and education. But, what we've learned and continue to benefit from is that Safe Sport is a process. It takes time and an ongoing commitment for everyone, (team leadership, coaches, parents, fans, athletes) to keep clear rules, boundaries and understand of the benefits of a positive team culture. An outstanding concern of mine is how we monitor our open decks at swim competition

as there is no clear process on confirming credentials of coaches. Sierra Nevada needs to adopt a procedure to address this.