



SAFE SPORT NEWSLETTER



Looking Back on 10 years of Safe Sport Initiatives

"Even though we have completed 10 years of work inside USA Swimming Safe Sport, we are **still pushing ourselves each day to be better.**"

Read how USA Swimming Safe Sport has grown throughout the last 10 years below.

[READ MORE](#)

Safe Sport Weekly Discussions

Before COVID-19 hit, the [Tri-City Channel Cats](#) (Richland, WA) implemented weekly Safe Sport discussions, led by Head Assistant Coach Jen Tonkyn and current USA Swimming Safe Sport Western Zone Chair April Walkley.



"It was only five or 10 minutes of pool time, but you could see what was going on mattered to these kids," explained Tonkyn. She continued, "**I don't know a single coach out there that would say 10 minutes once a week to save a life is not valuable.**"

[Read Article Here](#)

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month

February is **Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month**. Teaching teens about healthy relationships provides them with the foundation of expectations on which they will build future relationships

We can create opportunities to have these discussions with adolescents using the Coaching Boys Into Men and Athletes As Leaders scenario-based curriculums. Coaches and mentors can use the already created training cards to lead discussions with their athletes on topics such as healthy boundaries, relationships and overall communication. There is **no additional training necessary** to use these curriculums. Coaches and team leaders only need to find **10-15 minutes** every so often to have the conversation. They can even **complete them virtually**.

Let's give our athletes all the tools to become strong, healthy and respectful adults.

You can find these curriculums on the USA Swimming's [Safe Sport Team Talk Page](#).



Coaching Boys Into Men

Overview



Athletes As Leaders

Overview

- **12** learning sessions
- **Aims to teach** male athletes ages 12 and older respect for themselves and others
- **Helps build** healthy relationships and stops violence before it starts
- **Themes** include personal responsibility, respectful behavior and relationship abuse

- **10** learning sessions
- **Aims to empower** women athletes ages 12 and older
- **Promotes** healthy relationships and ending sexual violence
- **Encourages** leadership
- **Challenges** gender stereotypes

CBIM Cards

AAL Cards

SSRP Incentive

USA Swimming Safe Sport is proud to continue the Keeping Athletes First incentive through December 2021! Congratulations to all teams who were randomly drawn to win a virtual visit with a U.S. National Team athlete in 2020. The staff is excited to keep the positive momentum going throughout 2021 with 12 more recognized clubs.

Find out more on how to become a Safe Sport Recognized club [here](#).

Check out our updated list of winners and the athlete who visited them [here](#).

Read More on the SSRP Incentive



SSRP Renewals

Safe Sport Club Recognition status expires after two years. To remain recognized, clubs will have to submit a new application. This will include a complete upload of all required documents. If you are coming up on your expiration, please start gathering your information.

For more information about what new policies and resources are available to maintain your SSRP status, please email ssrp@usaswimming.org.

[More Info](#)



Club Portal - Additional User

Trying to become SSRP approved this year? Start by adding an additional user to your club portal for easy access and the ability to submit your application!

Follow the easy steps by clicking the button below.

[Additional User Guide](#)

2021 SSRP Trainings

Safe Sport is committed to creating a healthy environment that is free from abuse for all members. As we continue with virtual learning opportunities throughout 2021, we will be increasing security measures to keep parents, athletes and coaches safe during trainings. Starting in January, **all trainings will require individuals to register ahead of time.**

In addition, we have enhanced our Safe Sport Trainings' security measures and will have the following in place:

- Meetings will be locked
- Athlete attendees will only have access to chat with hosts
- Multiple USA Swimming Safe Sport staff will be on all trainings and will monitor participant video share
- Frequent check-ins with attendees
- Screen share and annotation capabilities will be disabled
- Meetings will require registration and athlete training registrations will be cross-checked with USA Swimming member records
- USA Swimming has enabled the At-Risk Meeting Notifier tool from Zoom. This tool searches the public internet for Zoom meeting information and checks the meeting's security settings. Zoom notifies USA Swimming if a meeting appears to be at high risk for being disrupted. This tool is enabled for all USA Swimming hosted Zoom meetings.

Safe Sport trainings are held monthly, please view trainings dates through March 2021 below:

Parent Training:

- Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 8 p.m. EST ([REGISTER HERE](#))
- Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 8 p.m. EST ([REGISTER HERE](#))

Athlete Training (ages 12-18):

- Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 8 p.m. EST ([REGISTER HERE](#))
- Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 8 p.m. EST ([REGISTER HERE](#))

Coach Training:

- Friday, February 19, 2021 at 3 p.m. EST ([REGISTER HERE](#))
- Friday, March 19, 2021 at 3 p.m. EST ([REGISTER HERE](#))

If you cannot attend these trainings, athletes and parents can independently complete trainings using the USA Swimming LEARN platform. Click the link below for more info on Safe Sport trainings!

[TRAININGS](#)



APT Training Renewals

Athlete Protection Training requirements must be renewed each year. The training must be completed no later than the date of expiration on your LEARN dashboard. To renew, follow these easy steps:

1. Login to LEARN [here](#)
2. Enter your information and click "SEARCH"
3. Click on your name
4. Take the Refresher Course as early as 90 days prior and up to your expiration date
5. Your membership record will update automatically within 24 hours!

For further assistance, please contact learn@usaswimming.org.

[Login Here](#)

Athlete Protection Training (APT) Exemptions

USA Swimming recognizes the required training course may not be appropriate for some adult athlete members with cognitive disabilities. For any such adult athlete member, please reference [this document](#) for exemptions and accommodations.

Additionally, completing this training may be triggering or re-traumatizing for victims/survivors. Exemptions for this requirement may be made on a case-by-case basis. Requests may be made to USA Swimming at learn@usaswimming.org.



Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy

Don't forget! **USA Swimming member clubs and LSCs are required to implement the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP) in full.** All requirements for adult and minor interactions are specified in MAAPP, including interactions at practice and meets.

Since MAAPP must be reviewed and agreed upon by all athletes, parents, coaches and other non-athlete members every year, make sure to review this policy before getting back in the water.

To view and customize your Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy, please click [here](#).

Free Resources

USA Swimming Safe Sport Club Tool Kit Page

[This page](#) has numerous FREE resources for your clubs to use! Some examples of what is available are model policies, best practice guidelines and art templates.

SSRP Tips Sheet

Have you been SSRP approved? Use our [Tips Sheet](#) to help spread the word!

Safe Sport Club Recognized FAQ

We have updated our Safe Sport Club Recognition FAQ sheet! To view the updated PDF,

please click [here](#).

Safe Sport Activity Books

The Activity Books are still available! To purchase books, please visit our purchasing page [here](#). PDF versions for [5-11 year olds](#) and [12-18 year olds](#) are also available to download.

Meet 360

This [informational resource guide](#) will help assist administrators in creating a healthy and positive environment free from abuse for athletes during swim meets.

Friendly Reminders for You

Keep Us in the Loop

- We want to know what your LSC & teams are doing – send us a picture at safesport@usaswimming.org with a brief description to be featured online or in our next newsletter!

USA Swimming Insider

- Don't forget to follow [@USASwimInsider](#) on Twitter to follow along with training and other resources from USA Swimming.