

USA Swimming Safe Sport Reminders

As a member in the 2021-2022 season, here are a few important USA Swimming Safe Sport reminders:

1. Training and Education:

Federal law (the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017) requires USA Swimming to offer and provide consistent training to all adult members who are in regular contact with minor athletes and, subject to parental consent, to members who are minors regarding prevention and reporting of child abuse.

USA Swimming requires all adult members of USA Swimming - both athletes and non-athletes - to complete athlete protection education on an annual basis. This includes:

- USA Swimming members;
- Employees or board members of USA Swimming, Zones, Local Swimming Committees (LSCs) or member clubs;
- Individuals within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Swimming, Zones, LSCs or member clubs; and
- Individuals who are authorized, approved or appointed by USA Swimming, Zones, LSCs or member clubs to have regular contact with or authority over minor athletes.

For more information on the training and education requirements, please review USA Swimming's Training and Education Policy found [here](#). Adult athlete and non-athlete members can access the required training through the LEARN platform at www.usaswimming.org/apt.

USA Swimming offers optional training every month for both parents and minor athletes via Zoom virtual trainings as well as through the USA Swimming LEARN platform. The monthly virtual Zoom training schedule can be located [here](#). Trainings for minor athletes can be accessed at www.usaswimming.org/apt and trainings for parents can be accessed at <https://learn.usaswimming.org>.

2. Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy:

The updated Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP) was required to be implemented in full by USA Swimming, its Zones, LSCs and member clubs by September 1, 2021. MAAPP addresses the risk areas of one-on-one interactions, meetings and individual training sessions, electronic communications, in-program travel and lodging, locker rooms and changing areas, as well as massages, rubdowns, and athletic training modalities. The policy aims to strengthen accountability and supervision when it comes to interactions between adults and minors while participating in USA Swimming - all with the goal of preventing abuse.

The full MAAPP can be found at www.usaswimming.org/maapp, along with educational materials to assist Zones, LSCs and member clubs with implementation.

3. Reporting:

Pursuant to federal law, all adults authorized to interact with minor athletes who learn of facts that give reason to suspect a child has suffered an incident of child abuse, including child sexual abuse, must make a report of the suspected abuse to law enforcement and/or the state's designated agency, as well as to the U.S. Center for SafeSport immediately (e.g., within 24 hours).

It is every USA Swimming member's responsibility to promptly report any incident regarding sexual misconduct by a member to USA Swimming. Reporting must occur when an individual has firsthand knowledge of misconduct or where specific and credible information has been received from a victim or knowledgeable third party. This reporting requirement is a part of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct Article 306: Child Abuse Reporting Requirements. Various state laws may also require reporting to law enforcement or to a designated child protection agency.

Article 307 of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct also states no member shall retaliate against any individual who has made a good faith report. False reporting of sexual misconduct made in bad faith is prohibited, and neither civil nor criminal statutes of limitation apply to reports of cases of sexual abuse.

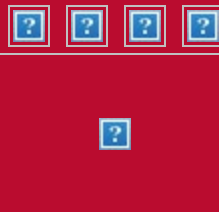
Reporting can be very difficult. If you need any advice or help in making your report, please contact USA Swimming Safe Sport staff at safesport@usaswimming.org or visit www.usaswimming.org/report.

Following all of the USA Swimming Safe Sport policies and requirements throughout your membership year is vital. Should you have any questions about this information or anything Safe Sport related, contact USA Swimming Safe Sport staff at safesport@usaswimming.org.

Talk to us today

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