

# USA Gymnastics SAFE SPORT POLICY

## EVENT DIRECTORS

Beginning August 1, 2021, all meets sanctioned by USA Gymnastics will require Safe Sport Policy information to be distributed to all event personnel, along with Safe Sport signage to be displayed prominently that specifies how to make a report to both USA Gymnastics and the U.S. Center for SafeSport.

### Safe Sport Policy Information

Event personnel who are considered to have “Regular Contact and Authority Over” minor athletes, must receive Safe Sport policy information prior to working the event that includes:

- Duty to Report
- One-on-One Interactions
- Medical Policy (if medical services are to be offered)
- Locker Room and Changing Areas Policy

This information can be sent electronically via email or posted on the website or social media page of the meet host. All event workers, including volunteers, must be made aware of the information and where it can be accessed regardless of method of distribution.

*\*It is advisable to have this information available for volunteers and vendors on the day of the event.*

*USA Gymnastics will provide the necessary information to Event Directors in both their sanction packet and on the USA Gymnastics website.*

### Signage

Safe Sport signage must be visible and placed in prominent places such as:

- Participant check-in
- Inside the restrooms and changing areas
- Parent viewing area
- Concession stand

*Templates will be available to Event Directors in both their sanction packet and on the USA Gymnastics website.*

### Locker Rooms and Changing Areas

Private or semi-private places must be made available for Minor Athletes to change clothes or undress at competitions or facilities.

- A semi-private area is an area that is not separate from where other individuals are changing but offers the Minor Athlete some privacy to change. For example, a bathroom stall with a door would meet this requirement. A semi-private area can also be created by a partition or drapery.
- A private area is an area separated completely from anyone else changing. This area would be fully enclosed with a door, and no other individual would be able to enter without the Minor Athlete’s permission. This could be a single restroom or family restroom, where the Minor Athlete can change alone and lock the door.

Event Directors may request that participants arrive at the meet dressed for the competition. However, there still must be a designated area such as a public restroom with a locked stall in the event of an emergency.

Locker Rooms and Changing Areas must be randomly monitored for compliance with the Safe Sport One-on-One Policy and for the safety of the athletes.

*\*Sign templates for restroom and changing areas will be available to Event Directors in both their sanction packet and on the USA Gymnastics website.*



USA GYMNASTICS.

# USA GYMNASTICS SAFE SPORT POLICY

## Event Directors

### Misconduct at a Meet

For the safety of the athletes and attendees, an Event Director has the authority to manage all Safe Sport issues that arise during a meet. All Safe Sport matters must be reported to USA Gymnastics or the U.S. Center for SafeSport immediately following the meet. The following examples are actions that can be taken in response to a violation of policy or misconduct:

- Verbal warning
- Asking a person to maintain distance from a specific athlete, coach, or team
- Removal from the competitive floor or space
- Removal from the facility
- Police intervention

### Photography and Medical Personnel

USA Gymnastics has created a document that outlines the qualifications for independent photographers and third-party photographers that can be found in Appendix D of the USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy.



#### Independent Photographers

All independent photographers and videographers who are not associated with a third-party photography company must complete U110: Safe Sport Core course, pass a background check and register for a Photographer/Videographer Membership with USA Gymnastics. Membership information can be found [here](#). Meet Directors are responsible for notifying attendees and parents/guardians that photographs will be taken of Minor Athletes. Parents or the athletes have the right to request that photographs not be taken and all requests must be honored.

#### Third-Party Photography/Videographer

Third-Party photography/videographers must have at least **one owner or managing director** obtain a USA Gymnastics Membership, which requires completion of USA Gymnastics background check and U110: SafeSport Core course.

The staff assigned by the third-party photography/videography vendor to provide services at a sanctioned meet, **are not required** to become members of USA Gymnastics. However, the third-party photography/videography vendor must ensure, and show proof upon request, that all third-party vendor staff assigned to such meets have successfully passed a background check screening consistent with [USA Gymnastics Criminal Background Screening Policy](#).



#### Independent Medical Providers

All medical personnel who are not associated with a third-party medical company such as a hospital or medical group must obtain a Medical membership with USA Gymnastics, complete the U110: Safe Sport Core course, and pass a background check. Membership information can be found [here](#).

Independent medical providers must submit to the Event Director proof of Medical membership and appropriate medical licenses and credentials.

Athletic trainers hired through third party websites such as Go4Ellis, are considered Independent medical providers and must adhere to the standards for independent providers.

#### Third-Party Medical Vendors

Third-Party medical vendors are organizations/licensed businesses that have contracted with a meet director and/or host club to provide medical services and assign staff to provide said services at a sanctioned meet.

The staff assigned by the third-party medical vendors to provided services at a sanctioned meet, **are not required** to become members of USA Gymnastics. However, the third-party medical vendors must ensure, and show proof upon request, that all staff assigned to such meets have successfully passed a background check screening consistent with [USA Gymnastics Criminal Background Screening Policy](#) and are appropriately licensed.

For questions regarding Safe Sport policy as it relates to sanctioned events, please contact the Safe Sport department at [safesportpolicy@usagym.org](mailto:safesportpolicy@usagym.org).