

# ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

The majority of child sexual abuse is perpetrated in isolated, one-on-one situations. By reducing such interactions between children and adults, programs reduce the risk of child sexual abuse. However, one-on-one time with trusted adults is also healthy and valuable for a child. Policies concerning one-on-one interactions protect minors while allowing for these beneficial relationships.

**OBSERVABLE & INTERRUPTIBLE** One-on-one interactions between a minor athlete and an Applicable Adult (who is not the minor's legal guardian) at a facility that is either partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USA Fencing or any of its divisions or member clubs are permitted if they occur at an observable and interruptible distance by another adult unless meeting with a Mental Health Care Professional and/or Health Care Provider (see 3 below) or under emergency circumstances.

## MEETINGS

- Meetings between Applicable Adults and minor athletes at a facility partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USA Fencing or any of its divisions or member clubs may only occur if another adult is present, except under emergency circumstances. Such meetings must occur where interactions can be easily observed by, and at an interruptible distance from, another adult.
- If a one-on-one meeting takes place in an office at a facility under the jurisdiction of USA Fencing or any of its divisions or member clubs, the door to the office must remain unlocked and open. If available, it will occur in an office that has windows, with the windows, blinds, and/or curtains remaining open during the meeting.

## MEETINGS WITH MENTAL HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS & HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

If a mental health care professional and/or health care provider meets with minor athletes at a facility partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USA Fencing or any of its divisions or member clubs, a closed-door meeting may be permitted to protect patient privacy provided that: (1) the door remains unlocked; (2) another adult is present at the facility; (3) the other adult is advised that a closed-door meeting is occurring; and (4) written legal guardian consent is obtained in advance by the mental health care professional and/or health care provider, with a copy provided to USA Fencing or the relevant division or member club, as the case may be.

**INDIVIDUAL TRAINING SESSIONS** Individual training sessions between Applicable Adults and minor athletes are permitted at a facility under the jurisdiction of USA Fencing or any of its divisions or member clubs if the training session is observable and interruptible by another adult. It is the responsibility of the Applicable Adult to obtain the written permission of the minor athlete's legal guardian in advance of the individual training session if the individual training session will not be observable and interruptible by another adult. Such written permission for such individual training sessions must be obtained at least every six months. Parents, guardians, and other caretakers must be allowed to observe all training sessions of their related minor athletes.

