

Memorandum

Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy

To All State Safe Sport Coordinators and Chairs

April 10, 2019

The US Center for SafeSport has revised the old 'Proactive Policies' into the new Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP). USA Wrestling has revised our Safe Sport Policy accordingly, and it will be voted upon by the board on April 27th. I wanted to give you a heads up on some of the matters that are going into effect, and I ask your assistance to get this information down to your clubs.

The MAAPP actually went into effect on March 23, 2019. NGB's are given until June 23rd to bring all members into compliance.

1. The most immediate change is that all athletes 18 and older (or turning 18 prior to 8/31) must take the US Center for SafeSport training. It is free with their USA Wrestling membership. Those athletes currently 17 yrs old, but turning 18 prior to 8/31, must get parental consent to take the training. After June 23rd, any athlete not in compliance may be denied access to a USA Wrestling sanctioned event (Junior Nationals being the main event this will need to be completed in advance of for these athletes).

Until the Center provides an online form for Parental Consent, each club director should get an email or text from a parent consenting to their minor 17 yr old to take the training online. Please connect with your local club directors on this matter ASAP.

2. Starting with the 2019-20 season, all USA Wrestling chartered clubs will need to offer Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Training to all athletes under the age of 18. The training materials are being produced by the US Center for SafeSport, and should be a 'plug and play' format making it easy for clubs to administer. The materials and consent forms should be available by May 15th on the Center's website.

Each club will need to track: a) a description of the trainings (this will merely be "the USCSS materials for ages ____") b) the date(s) the training was offered and given, and c) a description of how the training was offered and given (materials and video provided at team meeting). USA Wrestling will collect information from club directors in our membership system, all of which will be exportable by the state's Safe Sport Coordinator.

We know this is a large change for clubs, and will initially be a challenge. Once we get through the first cycle it should become easier. However, as the NGB for wrestling, we have NO CHOICE in the matter as USA Wrestling will be audited for compliance by both the US Center for SafeSport and the USOC.

Starting with the 2020-21 season, no club will be able to renew their charter without compliance from the 2019-20 season on this education requirement.

There will be another Safe Sport Coordinator teleconference in mid-May to discuss these matters and the new Safe Sport Program Handbook. As always, I am open to any questions.

Best regards,

Dan K. Prochnow-Director of Safe Sport

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