

ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS GUIDELINES



PURPOSE: Balance the benefits of one-on-one interactions with the risk that the majority of child sexual abuse is perpetrated in isolated one-on-one interactions.

WHERE: These policies apply at all facilities, training or competition venues that are partially or fully under the jurisdiction of the Covered Organization (USOC/NGB). Partial or full jurisdiction shall include the following: any sanctioned event (and all traveling and lodging in connection) by the USOC/NGB or any facility that the USOC/NGB owns, leases or rents for practice, training or competition. **“Facility” shall include hotels when a team is traveling to USOC/NGB sanctioned event.**

WHO (“Collectively “Applicable Adults”):

- Adult members at a facility that is either partially or fully under the jurisdiction of the Covered Organization (USOC/NGB) (e.g., coaches, officials, adult athletes, etc.).
- Adult members of the USOC/NGB who have regular contact with minor athletes (e.g., coaches, officials, adult athletes, etc.).
- Adults authorized by the USOC/NGB to have regular contact with minor athletes (e.g., volunteers, chaperones, medical personnel, adult athletes, etc.).
- Adults authorized by the USOC/NGB to have authority over minor athletes (e.g., coaches, officials, volunteers, chaperones, medical personnel, adult athletes, etc.).
- USOC/NGB staff and board members.

RULES TO FOLLOW

1

OBSERVABLE AND INTERRUPTIBLE

- Interaction must be easily observable by other adults.
- Other adults must be able to easily interfere with interaction.

2

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL MEETING

- Legal guardian consent required in advance.
- Door permitted closed, must be unlocked.
- Another adult must be present at the facility and aware of meeting.

3

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING SESSION

- Legal guardian consent obtained prior to training if not observable and interruptible by other adults.
- Parent, legal guardian or other caretaker permitted to attend.

SAFESPORT BEST PRACTICES

- Maintain a public calendar of all individual training sessions.
- Include the right to observe directly on consent forms for individual training sessions to remind legal guardians they have such a right.
- Share calendar of mental health care professionals and other health care providers with adults at the facility so they are aware when closed door meetings may be taking place, and that legal guardian consent is required.
- Make legal guardians aware of all mentoring relationships and get consent forms for all activities that are taking place away from practices and events.

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS GUIDELINES

PURPOSE: Locker Rooms and Changing Areas pose increased risk for abuse to occur, both between minor athletes and adults and among individuals of the same age.

ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS: No unrelated Applicable Adults may have one-on-one interactions with minor athletes in locker rooms except in emergency situations or in the case of a personal care assistant.

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- Adults authorized by the USOC/NGB to have authority over minor athletes (e.g., coaches, officials, volunteers, chaperones, medical personnel, adult athletes, etc.).
- USOC/NGB staff and board members.

RULES TO FOLLOW

1

RECORDING DEVICES

No recording devices may be used in locker rooms without prior approval of the requisite organization and unless other requirements are met.

2

MONITORING

Regular and random monitoring of locker rooms and changing areas must take place.

3

UNDRESS

Unrelated Applicable Adults cannot intentionally expose their private areas to a minor athlete.

SAFESPORT BEST PRACTICES

- Require locker room monitoring be conducted by two Applicable Adults whenever possible.
- Post locker room policies on the entrance to locker rooms or on bulletin boards inside locker rooms.
- Post schedules for use of locker rooms on the entrances to the locker room, specifically outlining times for use by minor athletes and separate times for use by Applicable Adults, as necessary.
- USOC/NGBs should set expectations that legal guardians should not enter locker rooms unless there is an emergency circumstance. It may be necessary in certain circumstances (e.g., children with disabilities or young children) for legal guardians to assist in the locker room. The USOC/NGBs should set clear expectations regarding how these situations are to be handled.

LOCAL TRAVEL GUIDELINES



PURPOSE: Address travel situations which present a unique scenario in which one-on-one interactions are more likely to take place.

WHO (Collectively “Applicable Adults”):

- Adult members of Covered Organization (USOC/NGB) who have regular contact with minor athletes (e.g., coaches, officials, adult athletes, etc.).
- Adults authorized by the USOC/NGB to have regular contact with minor athletes (e.g., volunteers, chaperones, medical personnel, adult athletes, etc.).
- Adults authorized by the USOC/NGB to have authority over minor athletes (e.g., coaches, officials, volunteers, chaperones, medical personnel, adult athletes, etc.).
- USOC/NGB staff and board members.

VEHICLE TRAVEL

1

Applicable Adults not acting as a legal guardian may not ride alone in a vehicle with an unrelated minor athlete.

2

Unrelated Applicable Adults must always have at least two minor athletes or another adult in a vehicle.

3

Written legal guardian consent must be obtained prior to each local travel for an Applicable Adult to travel one-on-one in a vehicle with an unrelated minor athlete.

SAFESPORT BEST PRACTICES

- Request that an unrelated Applicable Adult provides a copy of any consent form allowing them to travel one-on-one with a minor.
- Advise legal guardians, who participate in a shared or carpool arrangement, to pick up their minor athlete first and drop off their minor athlete last.
- Provide education concerning child abuse prevention to legal guardians before they give consent for their minor athlete to travel alone with an Applicable Adult.

TEAM TRAVEL GUIDELINES

PURPOSE: Address travel situations which present a unique scenario in which one-on-one interactions may be more likely to take place.

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- USOC/NGB staff and board members.

RULES TO KNOW

1

COMPETITION TRAVEL

Legal guardian consent is required for any travel involving an Applicable Adult and one minor athlete.

2

HOTEL ROOMS

An unrelated Applicable Adult and minor athlete may not share a hotel room without prior written legal guardian consent.

3

MEETINGS

Meetings during travel must be observable and interruptible.

SAFESPORT BEST PRACTICES

- Collect consent forms before any overnight travel. This will ensure if any one-on-one interactions take place, prior written consent has already been provided.
- Require minor athletes to have a fellow minor athlete as a partner with whom they stay connected during travel, particularly team/competition travel that includes overnight stays (“buddy system”).
- Monitor hotel rooms in pairs during overnight travel.
- Provide itineraries to legal guardians of minor athletes prior to travel and include in the schedule designated periods for communication between minor athletes and their legal guardians.
- Always require a minimum of two Applicable Adults be responsible for minor athletes during overnight travel.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

PURPOSE: To address the issue that one-on-one electronic communications and social media can increase the risk of abuse and grooming.

ENTIRE TEAM COMMUNICATION: Always copy another adult on any direct communication to a minor athlete or a group of minor athletes.

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- Adults authorized by the USOC/NGB to have authority over minor athletes (e.g., coaches, officials, volunteers, chaperones, medical personnel, adult athletes, etc.).
- USOC/NGB staff and board members.

THREE REQUIREMENTS

1

CONTENT

All electronic communication from Applicable Adults to minor athletes must be professional in nature.

2

OPEN AND TRANSPARENT

No one-on-one communication between Applicable Adults (with authority over minor athletes) and minor athletes.

3

REQUESTS TO DISCONTINUE

If requested by a legal guardian, no electronic communication to minor athletes may take place absent emergency circumstances.

SAFESPORT BEST PRACTICES

- Create and use public/team pages exclusively for electronic communication.
- Maintain a list of minor athletes whose legal guardians have requested a discontinuance of electronic communications. This makes it easy to ensure no such communication takes place.
- Provide Applicable Adults official email addresses (e.g., individual@organization.org) that are managed by the USOC/NGB and instruct Applicable Adult to use for all USOC/NGB communication.
- Designate an Applicable Adult for each team/club/organization to be copied on all electronic communication.
- Use apps designed for team communication that allow all communication to be seen by all team members (e.g., Teamworks, TeamSnap, SIPlay, etc.).