

DEFINITIONS

Adult Participant: Any adult (18 years of age or older) who is: a member or license holder of USATF or USATF Affiliate; an employee or board member of USATF or a USATF Affiliate; within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USATF or a USATF Affiliate; or authorized, approved, or appointed by USATF or a USATF Affiliate to have Regular Contact with or Authority over Minor Athletes.

Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant: An Adult Participant who assists an athlete requiring help with activities of daily living and preparation for athletic participation. This support can be provided by a guide for blind or visually impaired athletes or can include assistance with transfer, dressing, showering, medication administration, and toileting. Personal Care Assistants are different for every athlete and should be individualized to fit their specific needs. When assisting a Minor Athlete, Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant must be authorized by the athlete's parent/guardian

Authority: When one person's position over another person is such that, based on the totality of the circumstances, he/she has the power or right to direct, control, give orders to, or make decisions for that person. *Also see: Power Imbalance definition.*

Close-in-Age Exception: An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant does not have Authority over a Minor Athlete and is not more than four years older than the Minor Athlete (e.g., a 19-year-old and a 16-year-old athlete). Note: this exception only applies within the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies and not regarding conduct defined in the SafeSport Code.

Dual Relationships: An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant has a dual role or relationship with a Minor Athlete and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent at least annually authorizing the exception.

In-Program Contact ("In Program"): Any contact (including communications, interactions, or activities) between an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) related to participation in sport.

Examples include, but are not limited to: competition, practices, camps/clinics, training/instructional sessions, pre/post game meals or outings, team travel, review of film, team- or sport-related relationship building activities, celebrations, award ceremonies, banquets, team- or sport-related fundraising or community service, sport education, or competition site visits.

Minor Athlete: An amateur athlete under 18 years of age who participates in or participated within the previous 12 months in an event, program, activity, or competition that is part of, or partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USATF or USATF Affiliate.

Partial or Full Jurisdiction: Includes any sanctioned event (including all travel and lodging in connection with the event) by USATF or a USATF Affiliate, or any facility that USATF or a USATF Affiliate owns, leases, or rents for practice, training, or competition.

Power Imbalance: A Power Imbalance may exist where, based on the totality of the circumstances, one person has supervisory, evaluative, or other Authority over another. Whether there is a Power Imbalance depends on several factors, including but not limited to: the nature and extent of the supervisory, evaluative, or other Authority over the person; the actual relationship between the parties; the parties' respective roles; the nature and duration of the relationship; the age of the parties involved; whether there is an aggressor; whether there is a significant disparity in age, size, strength, or mental capacity.

Once a coach-athlete relationship is established, a Power Imbalance is presumed to exist throughout the coach-athlete relationship (regardless of age) and is presumed to continue for Minor Athletes after the coach-athlete relationship terminates until the athlete reaches 20 years of age.

A Power Imbalance may exist, but is not presumed, where an intimate relationship existed before the sport relationship (e.g., a relationship between two spouses or life partners that preceded the sport relationship).

Prohibited Conduct: Defined in section 1.1.

Regular Contact: Ongoing interactions during a 12-month period wherein an Adult Participant is in a role of direct and active engagement with any Minor Athlete(s).

USATF: USA Track & Field, Inc. The United States national governing body for the sports of track and field, long distance running, and racewalking.

USATF 3-Step Safe Sport Compliance: In order to be USATF 3-Step Safe Sport Compliant individuals must: 1) have a current USATF membership, 2) successfully complete one USATF background screen (which includes acknowledgement of the USATF Safe Sport Handbook and an agreement to abide by the respective code of conduct), and 3) successfully complete SafeSport training within the past 365 days before having contact with athletes.

USATF currently requires members of the following groups to be USATF 3-Step Safe Sport Compliant: including, but not limited to, USATF National Office Staff, USATF Board of Directors, USATF registered coaches, club coaches, USATF certified officials, authorized athlete representatives, club leadership (i.e. club presidents, board, staff, administrators, secretaries, coaches, etc., Association Safe Sport Volunteer Coordinators, and anyone with a role assigned to them on USATF Connect), National Team staff and other selected personnel, National Team Athletes, National Committee Chairs, Association leadership, Youth Executive Committee members, AAC Executive Committee members, AAC Event Leaders, contractors/vendors with access to athletes, and any other adult who has Authority and/or Regular Contact over athletes.

USATF Affiliate: USATF Associations, including their affiliated clubs, organizational members, and other entities.

USOPC: United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee

Each member club and program that is primarily and directly responsible for administering and supervising USATF programs must be fully versed in USATF's Safe Sport Program and possess the information necessary to more effectively monitor its organization, minimize the opportunities for physical and sexual abuse and other types of misconduct, and respond to concerns.

Certain jurisdictions in the United States have mandatory training and testing that may apply to those that work or volunteer with youth athletes. If state-mandated training and testing are in place, then the training and testing shall be consistent with relevant standards of care and state legislation.

Currently, all USATF national event organizers are required to submit a list of event workers to the USATF Youth Programs Director (if applicable) and/or USATF Events staff representatives at least ten (10) days in advance of the event for a compliance review. USATF reserves the right to track and conduct periodic checks for compliance regarding SafeSport training.

Minor Athlete Training

USATF annually offers training to members who are minors regarding prevention and reporting of child abuse. USATF has adopted the U.S. Center for SafeSport's SafeSport training materials that are available for the training of Minor Athletes with parental consent, located at www.safesporttrained.org.

These free resources include courses for children of preschool age; grades K-2; grades 3-5; middle school and high school. These online trainings are designed as an introduction for Minor Athletes and their parents or other caregivers to understand the importance of positive, welcoming environments in sports, where misconduct like bullying or abuse is less likely to occur, and to know where to report abuse, should it occur.

Each course requires that a parent/guardian create an account to provide consent for his/her child to access the training. Once an account is created, a parent/guardian can choose which course is best for his/her child based on the child's actual or developmental age. Each course can be found on www.safesporttrained.org and will take less than 30 minutes to complete. A writeable PDF certificate is available at the conclusion of each training, and a parent/guardian is encouraged to create one bearing his/her child's name.

Minor Athletes, who have become adults (18 years of age or older), must complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport's *SafeSport* Core Course and subsequent Core Refresher Courses (once/if applicable) found on www.safesporttrained.org. USATF also encourages those former minor athletes, who have become adults (18 years of age or older), to complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport's SafeSport Training for Adult Athletes.

Parent/Guardian Training

USATF annually offers training to parents/guardians on the prevention and reporting of child abuse. USATF has adopted the U.S. Center for SafeSport's parent training materials that are available at www.safesporttrained.org.