



**USA**  
**CLIMBING**

**MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICIES**

Effective Date: August 1, 2024

*USA Climbing Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies*

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## TERMINOLOGY

**Adult Participant:** An Adult Participant is any adult (18 years of age or older) who is:

- USA Climbing Staff
- USA Climbing Recreational, Competitor, Paraclimbing, and Collegiate Members 18+ years and older
- USA Climbing Interns
- USA Climbing Board Members
- USA Climbing Designated Committee Members (NGC, Audit, Judicial, Hearing Panel Pool, and Team Selection)
- USA Climbing National, Divisional, and Regional Coordinators
- USA Climbing Certified Coaches
- USA Climbing Certified Officials
- USA Climbing Certified Routesetters
- USA Climbing Covered Volunteers (i.e. volunteer coordinator, isolation coordinator, event organizers, aides)
- USA Climbing Non-Covered Volunteers
- USA Climbing National Team Contracted Medical Personnel (i.e. doctors, trainers, etc...)
- USA Climbing Contracted Massage Therapists
- USA Climbing Contractors who have regular contact with minor athletes (i.e. official National Team Chaperones)
- USA Climbing National Team Athletes in USADA's Registered Testing Pool
- Any other individual within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Climbing
- Any other individual that USA Climbing formally authorizes, approves or appoints (a) to a position of authority over, or (b) to have regular contact with any athlete

**Amateur Athlete:** An athlete who meets the eligibility standards established by the National Governing Body or paralympic sports organization for the sport in which the athlete competes.

**Authority:** When one person's position over another person is such that, based on the totality of the circumstances, they have the power or right to direct, control, give orders to, or make decisions for that person. Also see the [Power Imbalance definition in the SafeSport Code](#).

**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 4 years older than the Minor Athlete (e.g., a 19-year-old and a 16-year-old). *Note: This exception only applies within the 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 relationship with a Minor Athlete outside of the sport program and the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian has provided written consent at least annually authorizing the exception.

**In-Program Contact**

In-Program Contact includes sanctioned events and facilities, but it also applies more broadly to climbing-related interactions. The MAAPP defines “In-Program Contact” as:

*Any contact (including communications, interactions, or activities) between an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) related to participation in climbing.*

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

**Local Affiliated Organization (LAO):** A regional, state, or local club or organization that is directly affiliated with an NGB or that is affiliated with an NGB by its direct affiliation with a regional or state affiliate of said NGB. LAO does not include a regional, state, or local club or organization that is only a member of a National Member Organization of an NGB. USA Climbing currently does not have any LAOs.

**Minor Athlete:** A Minor Athlete is a Recreational, Competitor, Paraclimbing, or Collegiate Member 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 USA Climbing.

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

**National Governing Body (NGB):** A U.S. Olympic National Governing Body, Pan American Sport Organization, or Paralympic Sport Organization recognized by the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. §§ 220501, et seq. This definition shall also apply to the USOPC, or other sports entity approved by the USOPC, when they have assumed responsibility for the management or governance of a sport included on the program of the Olympic, Paralympic, or Pan-American Games.

**Personal Care Assistant:** An Adult Participant who assists a parasport 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 PCAs must be authorized by the athlete's parent/guardian.

**Regular Contact:** Regular contact includes ongoing interactions during a 12-month period wherein an Adult Participant is in a role of direct and active engagement with any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor.

**Residential Environment:** A Place in which participants live or stay temporarily. Residential environments include, but are not limited to, onsite housing at training facilities, billeting, hotel stays, or rentals (i.e., Airbnb, VRBO, HomeToGo, etc.).

**Billeting:** A residential environment facilitated by an Adult Participant, USA Climbing, the USOPC, or sanctioned event staff in which a Minor Athlete is temporarily housed in a private home with an adult of family who is not related to or known by the Minor Athlete. This lodging arrangement is in conjunction with an activity related to sport.

**U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC):** A federally chartered nonprofit corporation that serves as the National Olympic Committee and National Paralympic Committee for the United States.

**PART I**  
**TRAINING & SCREENING POLICY**

**A. Mandatory SafeSport Training for Adult Participants**

1. Adult Participants Required to Complete Training

- a. The following members must complete the *SafeSport Trained Core* Training through their USA Climbing account:
- i. USA Climbing Staff
  - ii. USA Climbing Recreational, Competitor, Paraclimbing, and Collegiate Members 18-years and older
  - iii. USA Climbing Interns
  - iv. USA Climbing Board Members
  - v. USA Climbing Designated Committee Members (NGC, Audit, Judicial, Hearing Panel Pool, and Team Selection)
  - vi. USA Climbing National, Divisional, and Regional Coordinators
  - vii. USA Climbing Certified Coaches
  - viii. USA Climbing Certified Officials
  - ix. USA Climbing Certified Routesetters
  - x. USA Climbing Covered Volunteers (i.e. volunteer coordinator, isolation coordinator, event organizers, aides)
  - xi. USA Climbing National Team Contracted Medical Personnel (i.e. doctors, trainers, etc.)
  - xii. USA Climbing Contracted Massage Therapists
  - xiii. USA Climbing Contractors who have regular contact with minor athletes (i.e. official National Team Chaperones)
  - xiv. USA Climbing National Team Athletes in USADA’s Registered Testing Pool
  - xv. Any other individual that USA Climbing formally authorizes, approves or appoints (a) to a position of authority over, or (b) to have regular contact with any athlete
- b. See Appendix B for categories of Adult Participants subject to training requirements of USA Climbing’s Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy

2. USA Climbing National Team Contracted Medical Personnel (i.e. doctors, trainers, etc) required to take training under Section (a) can take the Health Professionals Course in lieu of the *SafeSport Trained Core*.

3. Timing of Training

Adult Participants must complete this training

- a. Before regular contact with an amateur athlete who is a minor begins; and
- b. Prior to holding a current membership, whichever comes first.

#### 4. Refresher Training

The above listed Adult Participants must complete a refresher course every 12 months, beginning the calendar year after completing the *SafeSport Trained Core*. Every four years, Adult Participants will complete the *SafeSport Trained Core* training. Medical providers can take the Health Professionals Course in lieu of the *SafeSport Trained Core* and are required to take the refresher courses on an annual basis if they meet the criteria for A(1).

### **B. Background Screen Policy**

1. Certain members must complete a Background Screen on a biennial basis. For more information, see the USA Climbing Background Screen Policy.

### **C. Minor Athlete Training**

1. Recreational, Competitor, Paraclimbing, and Collegiate members that are 17-years-old and will turn 18 during the course of the season are asked to complete the SafeSport Core training upon membership renewal with parental consent. If consent is not acquired, the member will be placed in an ‘action required’ status upon turning 18 until the SafeSport Core training is completed.
2. Members under the age of 18 subject to parental consent, may access youth-specific courses at safesporttrained.org. USA Climbing members will be notified of the free available training upon annual registration.

### **D. Parent Training**

1. Parents may access the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s parent training through a USA Climbing Account or at [safesporttrained.org](https://safesporttrained.org). USA Climbing members will be notified of the free available training upon annual registration.

### **E. Optional Training**

1. Adult Participants serving in a volunteer capacity, who will not have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes, should take the Center’s brief Volunteer Course (or *SafeSport Trained Core*) before engaging or interacting with any Minor Athlete(s). Training other than the SafeSport Trained Core Course or Refresher does not satisfy this policy.

### **F. Exemptions and Accommodations**

1. Exemptions to the online training requirement may be requested by survivors of abuse and misconduct. Survivors of abuse can request an exemption by contacting USA Climbing or can choose to contact the Center directly to request an exemption at [exemptions@safesport.org](mailto:exemptions@safesport.org). All exemptions granted by the Center or USA Climbing in this category are considered indefinite and do not need to be re-requested every year.

2. Exemptions to the online training requirement for reasons other than survivor of abuse and misconduct are limited to cognitive or physical disability or language barrier. Requests for these exemptions must be made by the individual to USA Climbing. USA Climbing will determine whether to grant the exemption. If USA Climbing grants the exemption, it must track the exemption to ensure it is appropriately applied to the individual's membership status. USA Climbing must preserve documentation that the exemption was granted and for what duration.

3. The Center has several options available to assist individuals in completing the online training courses, including screen reader-compatible versions and course availability in several languages, including English, Spanish, French, Mandarin, Russian, German, and Japanese. If none of the available options will fit the individual's needs, USA Climbing may determine whether to grant an exemption.



## **PART II**

### **REQUIRED POLICIES FOR ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS**

The U.S. Center for SafeSport recognizes that youth-adult relationships can be healthy and valuable for development. Policies on one-on-one interactions protect children while allowing for these beneficial relationships. As child sexual abuse is often perpetrated in isolated, one-on-one situations, it is critical that organizations limit such interactions between youth and adults and implement programs that reduce the risk of sexual abuse.

**All one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be *observable and interruptible*, except in emergency circumstances or with a documented exception.**

#### **EXCEPTIONS**

There are certain relationships and situations in which one-on-one interactions may be allowed or necessary. This section identifies policy exceptions for close-in-age relationships, Personal Care Assistants, dual relationships, and emergencies.

**The following exceptions are applicable within all Required Prevention Policies unless otherwise noted.**

#### **A. Mandatory Components**

##### **1. A Close-in-Age Exception**

The purpose of this exception is to allow for continued relationships among athletes on the same team.

This exception allows for one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete if:

- a. The Adult Participant has no authority over the Minor Athlete; and
- b. The Adult Participant is not more than 4 years older (determined by birth date) than the Minor Athlete.

*Note: This exception is different than the close-in-age exception in the SafeSport Code pertaining to misconduct.*

##### **2. Exceptions for Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants Working with a Minor Athlete**

This exception exists for Adult Participants who also assist an athlete with activities of daily living and preparation for athletic participation.

This exception allows for one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete if the following requirements are met:

- a. the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian has provided written consent to the Organization for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
- b. the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
- c. the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Climbing’s Background Check Policy

### 3.Exceptions for Dual Relationships

This exception allows for one-on-one In-Program Contact when the Adult Participant has a relationship with a Minor Athlete that is outside of the sport program. The exception requires written consent of the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian at least annually. The consent must identify for which Required Prevention Policies the parent/guardian is allowing the one-on-one In-Program Contact.

### 4.Emergency Exception

This exception applies to all Required Prevention Policies for situations where an Adult Participant must violate requirement(s) of the MAAPP due to an emergency. Adult Participants must carefully consider whether specific circumstances meet the threshold of “emergency.” Adult Participants should document emergency situations in accordance with USA Climbing’s protocols (i.e., document in an email or report to USA Climbing’s Incident Report form identifying the emergency exception).

The Center recommends parents take training on child abuse prevention before providing consent to the above exceptions. The Center offers a free Parent Course at [safesporttrained.org](https://safesporttrained.org).

## MEETINGS

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Sexual abuse often happens when children are alone with their abusers. This section provides policies for meetings to limit one-on-one interactions between children and adults, including mental health care professionals and licensed health care providers.

### A. Mandatory Components

1. Observable and Interruptible

Adult Participants must ensure that all In-Program meetings with Minor Athletes be observable and interruptible, unless an exception exists.

2. Meetings with licensed mental health care professionals and health care providers (other than athletic trainers<sup>1</sup>) or a student under the supervision of a licensed mental health care professional or licensed health care provider.

If a licensed mental health care professional or licensed health care provider meets one-on-one with a Minor Athlete at a sanctioned event or a facility, which is partially or fully under USA Climbing’s jurisdiction, the meeting must be observable and interruptible except:

- a. If the door remains unlocked; and
- b. Another adult is present at the facility and notified that a meeting is occurring, although the Minor Athlete’s identity needs not be disclosed; and
- c. USA Climbing is notified that the provider will be meeting with a Minor Athlete; and
- d. The provider obtains consent consistent with applicable laws and ethical standards, which can be withdrawn at any time.

## INDIVIDUAL TRAINING SESSIONS

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Some abusers will single out athletes for special one-on-one instruction. This kind of isolation provides opportunities for abuse to occur. This section establishes rules for individual training sessions to protect youth athletes from uncomfortable or unsafe situations.

### A. Mandatory Components

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<sup>1</sup> Athletic trainers who are covered under these policies must follow the “Manual Theory and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities” policy.

1. Observable and Interruptible

Adult Participants must ensure all In-Program individual training sessions with a Minor Athlete be observable and interruptible unless an exception exists.

2. Consent

The Adult Participant providing the individual training session must receive advance, written consent from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian at least annually, which can be withdrawn at any time; and

3. Parent Observation

Parents/guardians must be allowed to observe the individual training session.

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## **MANUAL THERAPY AND THERAPEUTIC AND RECOVERY MODALITIES<sup>2</sup>**

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Many athletes require therapies to prevent or treat injuries. However, these treatment sessions can place children in vulnerable positions, especially if they involve physical contact with adults. This section establishes standards for therapeutic and recovery modalities and manual therapy to reduce the risk of inappropriate contact between youth and adults.

### **A. Mandatory Components**

**Note: Only the emergency exception applies within this policy.**

1. Observable and Interruptible

Adult Participants must ensure that all In-Program Contact during manual therapy and therapeutic modalities and recovery modalities with Minor Athletes must be observable and interruptible.

2. Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities Requirements

Adult Participants must ensure all In-Program manual therapy and therapeutic and recovery modalities meet the following requirements:

- a. Have another Adult Participant physically present for the modality or manual therapy; and
- b. Have documented consent as explained in subsection (3) below; and

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<sup>2</sup> Manual therapy and therapeutic and recovery modalities can be different for each sport. They can include, but are not limited to: first aid, massage, taping, cupping, stretching, cryotherapy, neuromuscular stimulations, electrical stimulation, or other modalities within the scope of a Healthcare Provider's credentials.

- c. Be performed with the Minor Athlete fully or partially clothed, ensuring that the breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals are always covered; and
  - d. Allow parents/guardians in the room as an observer, except for competition or training venues that limit credentialing; and
  - e. The provider must narrate the steps in the modality before taking them, seeking assent of the Minor Athlete throughout the process.
3. Consent
- a. Providers of manual therapy, therapeutic modalities, or recovery modalities or USA Climbing when applicable, must obtain consent at least annually from Minor Athletes' parents/guardians before providing any manual therapy, therapeutic modalities, or recovery modalities.
  - b. Minor Athletes or their parents/guardians can withdraw consent at any time.

## **LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS**

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Young athletes may be especially vulnerable to abuse in changing areas where they are undressing and possibly showering. Appropriate monitoring is necessary in these areas to prevent abuse and other inappropriate conduct. This section outlines policies for locker rooms and changing areas to ensure privacy and safety.

### **A. Mandatory Components**

#### **1. Observable and Interruptible**

Adult Participants must ensure that all In-Program Contact with Minor Athlete(s) in a locker room, changing area, or similar space where Minor Athlete(s) are present is observable and interruptible, unless an exception exists.

#### **2. Conduct in Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces**

- a. No Adult Participant or Minor Athlete can use the photographic or recording capabilities of any device in locker rooms, changing areas, or any other area designated as a place for changing clothes or undressing.
- b. Adult Participants must not remove their clothes or behave in a manner that intentionally or recklessly exposes their breasts, buttocks, groins, or genitals to a Minor Athlete.
- c. Adult Participants must not shower with Minor Athletes unless:
  - i. The Adult Participant meets the Close-in-Age Exception; or
  - ii. The shower is part of a pre- or post-activity rinse while wearing swimwear.

- d. Parents/guardians may request in writing that their Minor Athlete(s) not change or shower with Adult Participant(s) during In-Program Contact. USA Climbing and the Adult Participant(s) must abide by this request.
3. Media and Championship Celebrations in Locker Rooms  
USA Climbing does not permit Media and Championship Celebrations in Locker Rooms.
  4. Personal Care Assistants  
Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants are permitted to be with and assist Minor Athlete(s) in locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces where other Minor Athletes are present, if they meet the requirements detailed in exception section above.
  5. Availability and Monitoring of Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces
    - a. USA Climbing and event hosts must provide a private or semi-private place for Minor Athletes that need to change clothes or undress at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under USA Climbing’s jurisdiction.
    - b. USA Climbing and event hosts must monitor the use of locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces to ensure compliance with these policies at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under USA Climbing’s jurisdiction.

## **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS<sup>3</sup>**

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Technology has made it easier for teams to communicate and share information. Unfortunately, it also makes it easier for abusers to contact children without supervision or share inappropriate images and video. This section sets standards for appropriate electronic communications between youth and adults.

### **A. Mandatory Components**

1. Open and Transparent
  - a. All one-on-one electronic communications between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be open and transparent, unless an exception exists.
  - b. Open and transparent means that the Adult Participant copies or includes the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian, another adult family member of the Minor Athlete, or another Adult Participant on every communication.
    - i. If a Minor Athlete communicates with the Adult Participant first, the Adult Participant must follow this policy if the Adult Participant responds.

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<sup>3</sup> Electronic communications include, but are not limited to: email, phone calls, videoconferencing, video coaching, texting, social media, or through any other electronic medium.

- c. Only platforms that allow for Open and Transparent communication may be used to communicate with Minor Athletes.
2. Team Communication  
When an Adult Participant communicates electronically to the entire team or any number of Minor Athletes on the team, the Adult Participant must copy or include the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian, another adult family member of the Minor Athlete, or another Adult Participant.
3. Content  
All electronic communication originating from an Adult Participant(s) to a Minor Athlete(s) must be professional in nature unless an exception exists.
4. Requests to Discontinue  
Parents/guardians may request in writing that USA Climbing or an Adult Participant subject to this policy not contact their Minor Athlete through any form of electronic communication. USA Climbing and the Adult Participant must abide by any request to discontinue, absent emergency circumstances.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

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Athletes are often carpooling or traveling without the supervision of their parent/guardian to practices and competitions. This can place them in vulnerable positions where they are susceptible to abuse. This section establishes policies for adults transporting children to or from sport activities.

### **A. Mandatory Components**

1. Observable and Interruptible

Adult participants must ensure that all In-Program Contact during Transportation is Observable and Interruptible unless an exception exists or:

- a. The Adult Participant has advanced, written consent to transport the Minor Athlete one-on-one, obtained at least annually from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.
- b. The Adult Participant is accompanied by another Adult Participant or at least two minors who are at least 8 years of age.

2. Additional Requirements for Transportation Authorized or Funded by the “Organization”
  - a. Written consent from a Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian is required for all transportation authorized or funded by USA Climbing at least annually.
  - b. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.

## **LODGING AND RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENTS**

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Youth athletes traveling overnight face greater risk of sexual abuse if they are traveling without their parent/guardian. Abusers can take advantage of the situation by trying to have unsupervised time alone with children. This section sets rules for sleeping arrangements and room monitoring to protect athletes during overnight travel.

### **A. Mandatory Components**

#### **1. Observable and Interruptible**

All In-Program Contact during lodging must be observable and interruptible unless an exception exists.

- a. Lodging arrangements covered under this policy include but are not limited to, hotel stays, rentals (i.e., Airbnb, VRBO, HomeToGo, etc.), and long-term residential environments, including lodging at training sites and billeting.

#### **2. Hotel Rooms and Other Sleeping Arrangements**

- a. An Adult Participant cannot share a hotel room or otherwise sleep in the same room with a Minor Athlete(s), unless an exception exists and the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian has provided to USA Climbing or Adult Participant with advance, written consent for each specific lodging arrangement.
- b. Written consent from a Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian must be obtained for all In-Program lodging at least annually.
- c. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.

#### **3. Monitoring or Room Checks During In-Program Travel**

If USA Climbing or team performs room checks during In-Program lodging, the one-on-one interaction policy must be followed and/or at least two adults must be present for the room checks.

#### **4. Additional Requirements for Lodging Authorized or Funded by USA Climbing**

- a. Adult Participants traveling with USA Climbing must agree to and sign USA Climbing’s lodging policy at least annually.



- b. Adult Participants that travel overnight with Minor Athlete(s) are assumed to have Authority over Minor Athlete(s) and thus must comply with the Center's Training & Screening Policy unless the Adult Participant meets the Close-In-Age Exception.

### **Part III**

#### **RECOMMENDED POLICIES FOR KEEPING YOUNG ATHLETES SAFE**

##### **A. Out-of-Program Contact**

Adult Participants, who do not meet the Close-in-Age Exception nor have a Dual Relationship with a Minor Athlete, should not have out-of-program contact with Minor Athlete(s) without legal/parent guardian consent, even if the out-of-program contact is not one-on-one.

##### **B. Gifting**

1. Adult Participants, who do not meet the Close-in Age- Exception nor have a Dual Relationship with a Minor Athlete, should not give personal gifts to Minor Athlete(s)
2. Gifts that are equally distributed to all athletes and serve a motivational or educational purpose are permitted.

##### **C. Photography/Video**

1. Photographs or videos of athletes may only be taken in public view and must observe generally accepted standards of decency.
2. Adult Participants should not publicly share or post photos or videos of Minor Athlete(s) if the Adult Participant has not obtained the parent/guardian and Minor Athlete's consent.

## APPENDIX A

### ORGANIZATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATION & TRAINING AND PREVENTION POLICIES

All NGBs, LAOs, and the USOPC (the “Organization”) must implement proactive policies designed to prevent abuse. These organizational requirements are described below.

#### A. Organizational Requirements for Education & Training

1. USA Climbing must track whether Adult Participants under its jurisdiction complete the required training listed in Part I.
2. USA Climbing must, every 12 months, offer and, subject to parental consent, give training to minor athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
  - a. For training to minor athletes, USA Climbing must track a description of the training and how the training was offered and provided to minor athletes.
  - b. USA Climbing is not required to track individual course completions of minor athletes.
3. USA Climbing must, every 12 months, offer training to parents on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
  - a. For training to parents, USA Climbing must track a description of the training and how the training was offered and provided to parents.
  - b. USA Climbing is not required to track individual course completions of parents.

#### B. Required Prevention Policies and Implementation

1. USA Climbing must develop minor athlete abuse prevention policies to limit one-on-one interactions between a Minor Athlete and an Adult Participant. These policies must contain the mandatory components of the Center’s model policies in Part III. These model policies cover:
  - a. Meetings
  - b. Training sessions
  - c. Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities
  - d. Locker rooms and changing areas
  - e. Electronic communications
  - f. Transportation

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- g. Lodging and Residential Environments
2. The policies must be approved by the Center as described in subsection (C) below. The policies may include the recommended components in Part III and the recommended policies in Part IV. Given the uniqueness of each sport, however, some recommended components or policies may not be feasible or appropriate. An Organization may choose to implement stricter standards than the model policies.
  3. Each NGB and USOPC must also require that its LAOs implement these policies within each LAO. USA Climbing does not have any LAO in its organization.
  4. USA Climbing must implement these policies for all In-Program Contact.
    - a. At sanctioned events and facilities partially or fully under its jurisdiction, the organization must take steps to ensure the policies are implemented and followed.
    - b. For In-Program Contact that occurs outside USA Climbing’s sanctioned event or facilities, implementing these policies means:
      - i. Communicating the policies to individuals under its jurisdiction;
      - ii. Establishing a reporting mechanism for violations of the policies;
      - iii. Investigating and enforcing violations of the policies.
  5. USA Climbing must have a reporting mechanism to accept reports that an Adult Participant is violating USA Climbing’s minor athlete abuse prevention policies. USA Climbing must appropriately investigate and resolve any reports received, unless the violation is reported to the Center and it exercises jurisdiction over the report. This requirement is in addition to requirements to report abuse under the SafeSport Code.

### **C. Policy Approval and Submission Process**

1. Each NGB, and the USOPC may adopt the MAAPP as-is or adapt it to fit their needs. Regardless, each Organization must submit their policies to the Center at [compliance@safesport.org](mailto:compliance@safesport.org) for review and approval by April 1<sup>st</sup> 2024. The Center will approve, approve with modifications, or deny the policies. If the Center denies the proposed policy, the mandatory components of Part III become the default policy until the Center approves the policy.

2. The mandatory components of Part III will serve as the default policy for any organization that fails to develop its own policy as required by this section. Any changes made to USA Climbing's MAAPP after the policy is approved must be submitted to the Center for approval. The previously approved MAAPP will remain in effect until written approval is provided to the NGB or USOPC from the Center.

**APPENDIX B**

**CATEGORIES OF ADULT PARTICIPANT SUBJECT TO REQUIREMENTS OF USA CLIMBING’S MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICIES ALL ADULT PARTICIPANTS WITH REGULAR CONTACT OR AUTHORITY MUST FOLLOW THE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

<b>Adult Participants</b>	<b>Regular Contact</b>	<b>Authority</b>
USA Climbing Staff	X	X
USA Climbing Recreational, Competitor, Paraclimbing, and Collegiate Members 18-years and older	X	
USA Climbing Interns	X	X
USA Climbing Board Members		X
USA Climbing Designated Committee Members (NGC, Audit, Judicial, Hearing Panel Pool, and Team Selection)		X
USA Climbing National, Divisional, and Regional Coordinators	X	X
USA Climbing Certified Coaches	X	X
USA Climbing Certified Officials	X	X
USA Climbing Certified Routesetters	X	
USA Climbing Covered Volunteers (i.e volunteer coordinator, isolation coordinator, event organizer, aides.)	X	
USA Climbing National Team Contracted Medical Personnel (i.e. doctors, trainers, etc.)	X	
USA Climbing Contracted Massage Therapists	X	
USA Climbing Contractors who have regular contact with minor athletes (i.e. official National Team Chaperones)	X	X
USA Climbing National Team Athletes in USADA's Registered Testing Pool	X	
Any other individual that USA Climbing formally authorizes, approves or appoints (a) to a position of authority over, or (b) to have regular contact with any athlete	X	X

<p>Non-Covered Volunteers (i.e., Volunteer Check-in, Isolation Check-in, Athlete/Coach Check-in, Parent/Spectator Check-in, Rope Check-in/Handler, Non-Certified Judge, Scorekeeper, Head Belayer, Belayers, Isolation Assistant, Isolation Runner/Escort, Athlete Stager, EMT/Medic, Restroom monitor, Media, Build Crew, Vendors</p>		
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