

2020 SCS-Safe Sport Committee Report, June. 15, 2020



Safe Sport is constantly moving to the forefront of education and information for athletes, parents, volunteers and all those who are working to create a safer environment for our sport. Areas of importance and interest include the following items of interest:

To assist in SCS staying in the present with the ever changing 'Face' of Safe Sport I attended the Zone Safe Sport Virtual Workshop on Sat. May 30th. Please note that attached (from ELIZABETH HAHN, *Senior Manager, Safe Sport*) are all documents/slides that support the information listed below.

First, we reviewed all the new resources that are coming out.

1. **Coaching Boys Into Men and Athletes as Leaders:** These two programs give our members the opportunity to use evidence based curricula to spark meaningful conversations with their athletes about healthy relationships, strengthening values and open productive communication channels. You can find all the information at www.usaswimming.org/safesportteamtalk The two videos we watched about these programs can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TT6LXPpV3B8> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YRbIRuClYhM>
2. **Safe Sport Activity Books:** We have two new Activity Books available; one for athletes ages 5-11 and 12-18. These Activity Books have similar activities as before however, all of them now connect back to the purpose of Safe Sport which is abuse prevention. These books will teach kids about boundaries, how to recognize them, how to report, and identifying who they can report to. They are not attached to this email as there are just a few grammatical changes being made last minute, but they will be available on the website very soon.
3. **Training of Trainers:** This resources includes a full training guide and PowerPoint presentations for Athletes 11 and younger, Athletes 12+, Coaches, Parents and Officials. The goal is to make it easy for you all who are providing training to teams. This also makes the Safe Sport message consistent. You can use just the guide or use the PowerPoint slides that have all the speaking notes in them. I realized that we needed to add information about how to do trainings virtually so we are making that change and will send you the revised product when that is added.
4. **Meet 360:** This is an information resource guide intended to assist meet administrators in creating a healthy and positive environment free from abuse for athletes. This guide includes steps for Meet Directors to take, briefing sheets, and the new art work for posters, heat sheet ads and meet announcements. We had much discussion on this resource and it was noted we need to have consistency with meet sanctioning and things in this guide. A few chairs said that they would be interested in working with us on this topic. The art work is attached to this email.

Second, we reviewed the plan of how our Safe Sport Program will spend the \$2M awarded by the Keeping Athletes First Initiative in order to reach the goal of getting every USA Swimming member club Safe Sport Recognized. The proposal was broken down into six areas:

1. **Technology Improvements:** A commonly cited bottleneck for clubs is difficulty in using the Club Portal. Specifically, the Club Portal, in its current state, only permits one password user to access a club's account. In many cases, the club head coach will not grant user access to the individual assisting the club through the recognition application process. The use of funds for technology improvements would permit for an additional login with limited access capabilities for the sole purpose of Safe Sport Club Recognition. IT is already working on this upgrade with a hopeful release date of mid-June.
2. **Club Incentives:** A public release from USA Swimming will come in the next few weeks.

3. **Promotion and Communications:** The first use of funds is to produce a professional promotional video featuring recognizable coaches and athletes discussing the importance of clubs achieving Safe Sport Club Recognition. Further funds will be used to create and mail to each USA Swimming athlete member household a Safe Sport resource guide containing information on the Safe Sport Club Recognition program, education and training opportunities and other Safe Sport resources. This will be a direct touchpoint to all athlete member households. Additional promotion of the program is planned through existing USA Swimming communication and social media channels.
4. **Education and Training:** A virtual training program will be conducted, training 3 individuals per LSC (approximately 180 individuals total) whom will become recognized as approved trainers who can conduct in-person, facilitator-led trainings in their LSC. Additional funds will be directed to the trainers to reimburse their expenses locally.
5. **Staffing:** With the goal of recognizing 2,900 clubs by the end of 2021, additional staffing help is necessary. Four contract workers will be hired to assist clubs within an assigned zone with achieving recognition. The contractors will work in conjunction with the USA Swimming Safe Sport staff, the Zone Safe Sport chair and the LSC Safe Sport chairs.
6. **Future Program Peer Review Phase:** To further engrain Safe Sport into the fabric of our sport, after achieving recognition, clubs will participate in a peer review process with club representatives evaluating other clubs. This will not only allow clubs to learn from other clubs, but will also provide USA Swimming Safe Sport staff with an internal feedback mechanism. This internal feedback mechanism will inform the USA Swimming Safe Sport staff on what messaging and which resources are resonating at the local level and permit the staff to adjust priorities accordingly.

We also reviewed what the new USA Swimming website is going to look like. The launch date for the new website is set for June 15th.

Note: May 2020 Information from Trish Hughes of USA Swimming SafeSport

114 clubs have completed Safe Sport Recognition in May! This number in May is 10 less than were approved in all of 2019. Great job in leading the charge to help clubs apply and achieve Safe Sport Recognized! Club Statistics are attached.

Zoom Trainings have been a huge success this past month with over 3,000 parents, athletes and coaches trained. Please communicate to your clubs that a survey link will be given at the end of each training to take attendance. If we do not receive their attendance in the survey they will not be counted as attending. Additionally people cannot get credit twice. If they have taken training via LEARN they will not be counted again for club credit. Please refrain from sending emails about attendance verification. The number participating is fantastic and very time consuming to calculate manually.

if you were not able to attend the webinar Talking to Parents about Safe Sport presented by Elizabeth Hahn, you have not missed out. Please see below you will find a link to the recording of the webinar and slides.

- a. **Recording:** <https://adobe.ly/37gG5n6>
- b. **Slides:** <https://bit.ly/2tSOVvv>

New: All Safe sport materials can now be ordered from the following website:

<https://usaswimmingbrandstore.com/products?s%5Bf%5D%5Bc%5D%5B%5D=%2FSafe+Sport>

Reminders.....

- All MAAPP Sample Forms : Available at www.usaswimming.org/maapp
- All past Safe Sport webinars are available here: <https://www.usaswimming.org/articles-landing-page/2017/04/03/online-clinic-series---safe-sport>
- Questions for Safe Sport can be directed to: Maggie Vail, MSW | Safe Sport Education Manager | (719) 866-3552 | (719) 244-0530 | [//usaswimming.org/protect](http://usaswimming.org/protect) | @SwimSafeSport
- Please continue to follow Safe Sport on Twitter @SwimSafeSport and on Facebook at USA Swimming Safe Sport.

To review all of the services offered for Safe Sport at the US Center for Safe Sport, one can go to:

<https://www.teamusa.org/team-usa-athlete-services/safe-sport>

There you can be directed to the following items of information:

- Athlete Safety - The U.S. Olympic and Paralympic community is committed to providing a positive, healthy and safe environment for American athletes that is free from emotional, physical and sexual abuse. To protect and ensure the safety of athletes – regardless of age, gender or stage of development – the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee and member National Governing Bodies are under the jurisdiction of an independent entity, the U.S. Center for SafeSport.
- How To Report A Concern
- Law Enforcement
- U.S. Center for SafeSport
- U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee's Office of Athlete Safety
- Suspended Individuals & Disciplinary Records
- The following FAQ's

- When should I report a concern?
- What can I expect when I report?
- What is the U.S. Center for SafeSport's SafeSport Code?
- What is the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee's Athlete Safety Policy?
- How much funding does the USOPC dedicate to the U.S. Center for SafeSport?
- Why was the U.S.Center for SafeSport originally created?



**Respectfully Submitted,
Sheri Stoddard
SCS Safe Sport Chair**