U.S. CENTER FOR SAFESPORT
CHAMPION RESPECT. END ABUSE.

2026 SAFEGUARDING AUDIT REPORT

NGB NAME:	USA Baseball
CITY/STATE:	Chicago, IL
EVENT DATE:	7/16/2026

BACKGROUND AND AUDIT PURPOSE

The U.S. Center for SafeSport (the Center) is working to build a sport community in which everyone can work and learn together in an atmosphere free of emotional, physical, and sexual abuse and misconduct. Federal law 36 U.S.C. §220541 authorizes the Center to develop and enforce abuse prevention policies and procedures that the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC) and its National Governing Bodies (NGBs) must implement.

In accordance with that law, the Center has been granted authority to annually complete regular and random audits of NGBs and the USOPC. The Center objectively evaluates adherence and level of compliance to the requirements set forth in the SafeSport Code and the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention.

AUDIT SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

This 2026 audit is based on Event Audit Standards articulated in the U.S. Center for SafeSport Audit and Compliance Manual. During the audit, the Center reviewed policies and procedures, evaluated processes, administered implementation fidelity testing, conducted on-site inspections and interviewed individuals at the event site.

COMPLIANCE SCORING GUIDE

As part of the auditing procedures administered by the U.S. Center for SafeSport, each Organization will be evaluated and assigned a rating for every applicable audit standard. These ratings reflect the extent to which the Organization has implemented and adhered to the tenets outlined in each standard. The compliance score categories are as follows:

COMPLIANCE SCORE	DEFINITION
Compliant	The organization has successfully met the requirements of the audit standard, resulting in a meaningful reduction in risk to sport environments.
Needs Improvement	While some elements of the standard have been met, there are gaps in implementation or consistency by the Organization. These gaps reduce the overall effectiveness of the Organization's safety efforts and indicate a moderate level of risk within the sport environment.
Deficient	The Organization has failed to meet critical components of the audit standard, resulting in a heightened and unacceptable level of risk within the sport environment.

**To learn more about the above definitions, please refer to the Audit & Compliance Manual, Pg. 14-15.*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The U.S. Center for SafeSport's Audit Team conducted a Safeguarding Audit of USA Baseball to assess compliance with the Center's 2026 Audit Standards. The audit evaluated compliance and risk-management practices in four areas: Education and Training; Communication and Athlete Safety Awareness; Program Management and Governance; and Response and Resolution Systems.

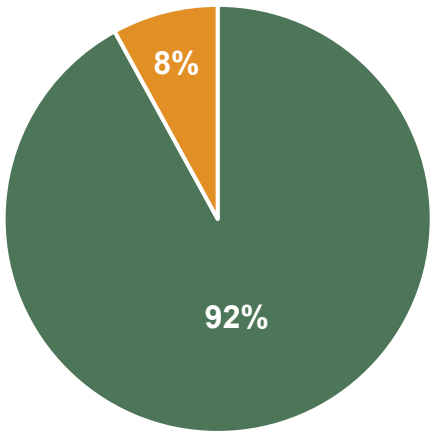
USA Baseball was found Compliant with 92% (22 of 24), Needs Improvement with 8% (2 of 24) of the applicable standards.

The only findings relate to communications around reporting. A notable strength is USA Baseball's structured tracking sheet that effectively supports NGB organizers in determining participant eligibility at events.

Detailed audit results, findings, and required corrective actions are provided below.

OVERALL RESULTS

Total Compliance Summary



Compliance Score by Requirement



Compliant Needs Improvement Deficient

SCORE BY REQUIREMENT

Requirement 1: Education & Training	
Standard 1.1	Compliant
Standard 1.2	Compliant

Requirement 2: Communication & Athlete Safety Awareness	
Standard 2.1	Compliant
Standard 2.2	Compliant
Standard 2.3	Compliant
Standard 2.4	Needs Improvement
Standard 2.5	Compliant
Standard 2.6	Compliant
Standard 2.7	Compliant
Standard 2.8	Compliant
Standard 2.9	Compliant
Standard 2.10	Compliant
Standard 2.11	Compliant
Standard 2.12	Compliant
Standard 2.13	Compliant
Standard 2.14	Needs Improvement

Requirement 3: Program Management & Governance	
Standard 3.1	Compliant
Standard 3.2	Compliant
Standard 3.3	Compliant
Standard 3.4	Compliant

Requirement 4: Response & Resolution Systems	
Standard 4.1	Compliant
Standard 4.2	Compliant
Standard 4.3	Compliant
Standard 4.4	Compliant

Total Number of Standards	
Standards	24

AUDIT AREA: EDUCATION & TRAINING

STANDARD 1.1: Organization must ensure that all board and staff are SafeSport trained every 12 months.

SCORE

Compliant

FINDING

Standard 1.1 is scored as Compliant. Of the 59 staff and board members tested, 58 (98%) were current with their annual SafeSport Training. USA Baseball followed all internal and necessary protocols to remind individuals who are not current with training to complete it and prevented them from participating until training requirement was fulfilled.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 1.2: Organization must ensure that at the audited event, all Adult Participants required to complete SafeSport training have completed this training within the previous 12 months. Those who have not fulfilled this requirement must be either prevented from participating or placed in a role that does not have regular contact with or authority over amateur athletes who are minors.
SCORE:
Compliant
FINDING
Standard 1.2 is scored as Compliant. Of the 30 Adult Participants randomly selected for testing, 30 (100%) properly completed the Center's training within the previous 12 months prior to the event.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

AUDIT AREA: COMMUNICATION & ATHLETE SAFETY AWARENESS

STANDARD 2.1: Organization must publish its current Center-approved MAAPP, in an easy-to-access location on its website by the Organization's effective date.
SCORE
Compliant
FINDING
Standard 2.1 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball posted its current Center-approved MAAPP in an easy-to-access location on its website by the effective date of January 1, 2026.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.2: Organization must publish a link to the Center's Code website which includes the current SafeSport Code or the Center's current SafeSport Code PDF in an easy-to-access location on its website by January 1, 2026.
SCORE:
Compliant
FINDING
Standard 2.2 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball posted the 2026 SafeSport Code in an easy-to-access location on its website by the effective date of January 1, 2026.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.3: Organization must publish a reporting mechanism in an easy-to-access location on its website, allowing individuals to report allegations of suspected Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, or violations of the MAAPP. The reporting mechanism must: a. Allow the report to be submitted with no associated costs, fees, or other financial barriers attached to submitting a report. b. Include an express statement that individuals may report anonymously. c. Allow individuals to report anonymously. d. Identify the jurisdictional authority of the Center and the Organization. Include a link to the Center's reporting portal.
SCORE
Compliant

FINDING

Standard 2.3 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball has published a reporting mechanism in an easy-to-access location on its website that allows individuals to report allegations of suspected Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, or violations of the MAAPP. The reporting mechanism meets all corresponding elements listed in Standard 2.3 (a-e).

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.4: Organization must clearly communicate how to report allegations of suspected Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, or violations of the MAAPP every 12 months to all Participants. Communication must include a link to the reporting mechanism included in Standard 2.3.

SCORE

Needs Improvement

FINDING

Standard 2.4 is scored as Needs Improvement. On January 8, 2026, USA Baseball sent a direct communication to all USA Baseball staff and board on how to report allegations of suspected Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, or violations of the MAAPP. The communication included a link to USA Baseball's reporting mechanism via their internal Slack, as well as their full Response & Resolution policies. This communication did not include specific information on how to report concerns; however, USA Baseball does offer specific reporting mechanisms on their internal Slack channel that encompasses all staff members as they do not have traditional members.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

1. USA Baseball must update their annual communications to include information on how to report specific concerns of suspected Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, or violations of the MAAPP, in addition to attaching their full Response and Resolution policies to its staff and event communications.

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUAL: Lisa Braxton

CORRECTIVE ACTION DEADLINE: November 25, 2026

CORRECTIVE PLAN:

1. USA Baseball has updated its annual communication to include reporting information for allegations of Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, and MAAPP deviations or violations, including links to the appropriate reporting forms.

STANDARD 2.5: Organization must publish its written policies identified in Standard 4.1 and written procedures identified in Standard 4.2, in an easy-to-access location on its website.
SCORE
Compliant
FINDING
Standard 2.5 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball has published its full Response and Resolution Systems policies and procedures to its website. See Standard 4.1 and 4.2 for further detail.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.6: Organization must communicate its current Center-approved MAAPP, by its effective date, and every 12 months thereafter to all Participants.
SCORE
Compliant
FINDING
Standard 2.6 is scored as Compliant. On January 8, 2026, USA Baseball sent a direct communication to all board & staff its current Center-approved MAAPP. This communication was 12 months and one day beyond from the previous January 7, 2025 communication.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.7: Organization must communicate the current SafeSport Code, by its effective date and every 12 months thereafter to all Participants.
SCORE
Compliant
FINDING
Standard 2.7 is scored as Compliant. On January 8, 2026, USA Baseball sent an annual direct communication to all board & staff the Center's 2026 Code. This communication was 12 months and one day from the previous January 7, 2025 communication.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.8: Organization must communicate the availability of training for parents/guardians on the prevention and reporting of child abuse every 12 months, to all Participants.
SCORE
Compliant

FINDING
Standard 2.8 is scored as Compliant. On July 15, 2026, USA Baseball sent a direct communication to all Participants at the audited event that offered the Center's parent/guardian training on the prevention and reporting of child abuse. This communication happens prior to each event as USA Baseball does not retain membership outside of events. All participants are required to sign and acknowledge several attached documents, including those that cover the Center's parent/guardian training.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.9: Organization must communicate the availability of training for Minor Athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse every 12 months, to all Participants
SCORE
Compliant
FINDING
Standard 2.9 is scored as Compliant. On July 15, 2026, USA Baseball sent a direct communication to all Participants at the audited event regarding available minor athlete training on the prevention and reporting of child abuse. This communication happens prior to each event as USA Baseball does not retain membership outside of events. All participants are required to sign and acknowledge several attached documents, including those that cover the Center's minor athlete training.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.10: Organization must communicate its policies and procedures included in Standards 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 every 12 months, to Event Organizers and LAO Administrators, if applicable.
SCORE
Compliant
FINDING
Standard 2.10 is scored as Compliant. On January 8, 2026, USA Baseball sent an email to all USA Baseball staff members its Program Management & Governance policies and procedures related to sanctioned events. As all events are NGB run, this communication encompasses the totality of those required to receive this communication. This communication was not within 12 months of the previous January 7, 2025 communication but a one-day delay does not impact scoring.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.11: Organization must adopt a documented procedure to communicate the current Center-approved MAAPP requirements to all event Participants at sanctioned events. The documented procedure must require that a direct communication be sent to all pre-registered Event Participants prior to an event. The documented procedure must require that day-of Participants receive a direct communication prior to participation.

SCORE

Compliant

FINDING

Standard 2.11 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball provided its written procedure pertaining to the communication of the current Center-approved MAAPP requirements to all Event Participants at sanctioned events, including pre-registered and day-of participants. The procedure encompassed all elements listed in Standard 2.11.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.12: Organization must adopt a documented procedure to communicate how to report allegations of suspected Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, and violations of the MAAPP to all Event Participants at sanctioned events. The documented procedure must require that a direct communication be sent to all pre-registered Event Participants prior to an event. The documented procedure must require that day-of Participants receive a communication prior to participation.

SCORE

Compliant

FINDING

Standard 2.12 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball provided its written procedure pertaining to the communication of how to report allegations of suspected Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, and violations of the MAAPP to all Event Participants at sanctioned events, including pre-registered and day-of participants. While USA Baseball's written procedure highlights the how of each reporting category, it does not explicitly reference who each form of report should be directed to. This finding does not impact the score.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

1. USA Baseball must add language to their written procedure regarding who each form of misconduct should be reported to in addition to the already present how.

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUAL: Lisa Braxton

CORRECTIVE ACTION DEADLINE: November 25, 2026

CORRECTIVE PLAN:

1. USA Baseball has updated its Response and Resolution Policy and Process to explicitly identify the appropriate reporting authority for each type of misconduct, including sexual, verbal, emotional, and physical misconduct, as well as MAAPP violations. The updated language also includes applicable reporting links and references existing mandatory reporting requirements.

   The revised policy is attached, with changes highlighted.

STANDARD 2.13: Organization must provide evidence that the documented procedure identified in Standard 2.11 was implemented at the audited event.

SCORE

Compliant

FINDING

Standard 2.13 is scored as Compliant. The event started on July 16, 2026. On both May 20 and July 15, 2026, the Director of Athlete Safety sent a direct email to all event participants that included NGB's MAAPP requirements.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 2.14: Organization must provide evidence that the documented procedure identified in Standard 2.12 was implemented at the audited event.

SCORE

Needs Improvement

FINDING

Standard 2.14 is scored as Needs Improvement. The event started on July 16, 2026. On July 15, 2026, the Director of Athlete Safety sent an email to all event participants that included reporting protocols for suspected misconduct, and violations of the MAAPP to all Event Participants at sanctioned events. This communication did not include specific procedures participants should follow for reporting physical and emotional misconduct, including directing reports to the appropriate organization (USA Baseball vs. the Center).

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

1. USA Baseball must update its event communications email for future events to include explicit reporting protocols and express statements for how to report allegations of suspected Physical Misconduct and Emotional Misconduct.

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUAL: Lisa Braxton

CORRECTIVE ACTION DEADLINE: November 25, 2026

CORRECTIVE PLAN:

1. USA Baseball has updated both pre-event communications (staff and athletes) to include explicit reporting instructions for allegations of suspected Physical Misconduct and Emotional Misconduct, including links to the appropriate reporting forms.

   Please see the attached revised pre-event communications, with changes highlighted.

STANDARD 3.1: Organization must adopt a written policy that states all Participants, including day-of Participants, on the Organizational Exclusion List (OEL) are prohibited from participating in all events, programs, activities, and/or competitions under the oversight of the USOPC, Organization, and/or their LAO.
SCORE
Compliant
FINDING
Standard 3.1 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball provided its written policy that all Participants, including day-of Participants, on the Organizational Exclusion List (OEL) are prohibited from participating in all events, programs, activities, and/or competitions under the oversight of the USOPC, Organization, and/or their LAO. The policy encompassed all elements listed in Standard 3.1.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 3.2: Organization must adopt a written policy that states all Adult Participants, including day-of Participants, who are required to complete SafeSport training have completed this training within the previous 12 months. If training is not current, the Adult Participant must be prevented from participating or participate in a role that does not include regular contact with or authority over amateur athletes who are minors in any event, program, activity, and/or competition under the oversight of the USOPC, Organization and/or their LAO.
SCORE
Compliant
FINDING
Standard 3.2 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball provided its written policy that all Adult Participants, including day-of Participants, who are required to complete SafeSport training have completed this training within the previous 12 months. The policy encompassed all elements listed in Standard 3.2 except for an explicit note around the annual requirement of the training which is non score impacting.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 3.3: Organization must adopt a documented procedure that requires Standards 3.1 and 3.2 to be enforced at all Tier 1 and Tier 2 sanctioned events.

SCORE

Compliant

FINDING

Standard 3.3 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball does not have tier 2 events and are the direct organizer of all NGB sanctioned events.

USA Baseball has a written procedure that includes all steps USA Baseball must take to ensure that all Adult Participants, including day-of Participants, who are required to complete SafeSport training have completed this training within the previous 12 months. If training is not current, the Adult Participant must either be prevented from participating or assigned to a role that does not include regular contact with or authority over amateur athletes who are minors at all events. This is done by the USA Baseball SafeSport office updating and leveraging a master Google Sheets document that tracks training for each event, double checked at the beginning of each event.

USA Baseball's written procedure includes all steps the Organization must take to ensure all Participants, including day-of Participants, on the Organization OEL are prohibited from participating in all events. This includes both a pre-event and during-event check of participants to ensure a lack of presence on the OEL.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 3.4: The Center will assess the Organization's design and operating effectiveness of Standard 3.3 for

a. The audited event
b. Tier 1 or Tier 2 sanctioned events

SCORE

Compliant

FINDING

Standard 3.4 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball runs all sanctioned events themselves. At the USA Baseball Women's National Team training camp, USA Baseball demonstrated that all relevant procedures from 3.3 were followed. USA Baseball employed a robust tracking system of both participant training data and OEL checks to ensure eligibility to participate in the event.

At the secondary audited event--the USA Baseball 15U National Training Camp--the same oversight procedure was followed in the form of a identical tracking system. The two events utilized consistent systems that fulfilled all requirements of 3.33.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 4.1: Organization must adopt a written policy pertaining to the reporting, intake, and investigations of suspected Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, or violations of the MAAPP, which includes:

a. An express statement that an individual may report anonymously.
b. Compliance with the mandatory reporting of child abuse provisions in the current SafeSport Code—including, (1) mandatory reports to law enforcement, (2) compliance with any other applicable reporting obligations under state or federal laws, and (3) mandatory reports to the Center.
c. An express statement that the Organization must report an allegation that falls within the Center's exclusive jurisdiction, directly to the Center, immediately, but no later than 24 hours.
d. An express statement that the Organization must promptly inform an identified reporting party of its jurisdictional determination regarding their report to the Organization, communicating that the matter is being referred to the Center, is being addressed by the Organization, or is being referred to an LAO.
e. An express statement that the Organization must respond to requests from the Center within 72 hours regarding the eligibility status of a Participant and the existence of Organization-imposed temporary measures or safety plans.
f. An express statement that prohibits retaliation before, during, and after the process (whether led by the Organization or by the Center) of resolving an allegation of suspected Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, or violation of the MAAPP
g. An express statement that the Organization shall not interfere in, attempt to interfere in, or attempt to influence the outcome of any Center investigation.
h. An express statement that designates a representative or department at the Organization who ensures the documented procedure is being followed.

SCORE

Compliant

FINDING

Standard 4.1 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball provided its written policy pertaining to the reporting, intake, and investigation of suspected Sexual Misconduct, Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, or violations of the MAAPP. The policy encompassed all elements listed in Standard 4.1.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 4.2: Organization must adopt a documented procedure pertaining to the intake and investigation process that identifies actions it will take to determine whether Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, or violations of the MAAPP occurred. The documented procedure must include:

a. Actions the Organization and/or its LAO will take to respond to and resolve reported allegations of Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, violations of the Organization's MAAPP, and violations that fall within the Organization's jurisdiction in which the Center declines.

SCORE

Compliant

FINDING

Standard 4.2 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball provided its written procedure pertaining to the intake and investigation process that identifies the actions it will take to determine whether Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, or violations of the MAAPP occurred. The procedure encompassed all elements listed in Standard 4.2.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 4.3: Organization must demonstrate its tracking of reported SafeSport allegations within its jurisdiction, how the allegation was responded to, and the respective outcome. This tracking mechanism must include the outcome of each report received, including violations that fall within the Organization's jurisdiction in which the Center declines.

SCORE

Compliant

FINDING

Standard 4.3 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball provided its mechanism used to track reported SafeSport allegations, including how the allegations are responded to, and their respective outcomes. The tracking mechanism includes both cases within its jurisdiction and those declined by the Center.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

STANDARD 4.4: Organization must annually, by April 30, submit to the Center its Data of Matters Addressed by the Organization and its LAO(s). The data submission from the Organization and its LAO(s) must include the following information:

a. Number of reports of Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, and violations of the MAAPP.
b. Number of investigations of Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, and violations of the MAAPP.
c. Number of violations of Physical Misconduct, Emotional Misconduct, and violations of the MAAPP.

SCORE

Compliant

FINDING

Standard 4.4 is scored as Compliant. USA Baseball provided its written policy for collecting Data of Matters Addressed by USA Baseball The policy encompasses all elements listed in Standard 4.4.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Corrective Actions or Management Response are not required.

AUDIT AREA: RISK ASSESSMENT

During the Event Audit, the auditor also conducts a MAAPP Risk Assessment, which includes on-site observations, interviews of select individuals at the event and review of policies and procedures related to the implementation of the 2025 MAAPP Required Prevention Policies. The Assessment focuses on:

1. General Observations
    a. Event space/Event layout
    b. Communications to participants
    c. Credentialing system

2. Required Prevention Policies
    a. How NGB has attended to the prevention policies within the 2025 MAAPP

3. Response and Resolution
    a. Specific policy items NGB is required to have posted publicly
    b. How NGB addresses and tracks reports of misconduct that are not in the Center's jurisdiction

This section of the Audit Report details areas observed during the audit that were related to the Risk Assessment and could include items that were found to reflect increased or mitigated risk to athlete safety and well-being.

FINDING

There were no qualifying findings applicable to this section of the report observed during the event audit.