



# THE MAAPP MANUAL



2025

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The U.S. Center for SafeSport (the Center) created the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) to address obligations under federal law. National Governing Bodies (NGB), Local Affiliated Organizations (LAO), and the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) must implement the MAAPP.

Throughout this manual, you will see the term “Organization” used. “Organization” refers to NGBs, the USOPC, and LAOs within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement. Some MAAPP requirements only apply to NGBs and the USOPC. You will not see “Organization” used for those requirements.

The MAAPP has four primary components:

1. **Organizational Requirements:** Tasks that each Organization must complete each year.
2. **Education and Training Policy:** Information about who must comply with the Center's training requirements within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement.
3. **Required Prevention Policies:** Seven collective policies that focus on limiting one-on-one interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes.
4. **Recommended Prevention Policies:** Additional prevention policies that limit one-on-one interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes.

## HOW TO USE THIS MANUAL

This manual will assist Organizations and administrators in better understanding the MAAPP. It will also assist in implementing the MAAPP within your Organization and any events, programs, activities or competitions, at various levels, authorized by, organized by or under the auspices of the Organization.

The manual begins by reviewing key terms and concepts of the MAAPP. The manual then reviews Organizational requirements and policies. Each section covers requirements, key points to communicate, and best practices for implementation. Finally, there are several appendices in this manual, including information guides and scenarios.

## CONTENT WARNING

This manual contains information about abuse and misconduct in sport but will not include graphic descriptions or images of violence. The content may be uncomfortable or trigger trauma for some readers.

To talk with someone about abuse you or someone you know has experienced, contact the SafeSport Helpline at 866-200-0796 or [safesporthehelpline.org](https://safesporthehelpline.org). You can report any abuse or misconduct within the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement to [uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern](https://uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern).

# MAAPP: KEY TERMS AND CONCEPTS



## How Do I Know if the MAAPP Applies to Our Participants?

There are approximately 11 million people in the Olympic and Paralympic Movement. Your Organization and its participants are subject to the MAAPP if:

- Your Organization is an NGB that is recognized by the USOPC or
- Your Organization is a Local Affiliated Organization to an NGB recognized by the USOPC.

There are several definitions and concepts that form the foundation of the policies and to whom they apply. The definitions will provide guidance on who must follow the MAAPP and when. This section will review these definitions and concepts.

## The Required Prevention Policies apply to "In-Program" Contact between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement.

To understand the statement above, it is important to define Adult Participant, Minor Athlete, activities related to sport, and In-Program Contact.

**ADULT PARTICIPANT:** Any adult (18 years of age or older) who is:

- a. A member or license holder of an NGB, LAO, or USOPC; **or**,
- b. An employee or board member of an NGB, LAO, or USOPC; **or**,
- c. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of an NGB, LAO, or USOPC; **or**
- d. Authorized, approved, or appointed by an NGB, LAO, or USOPC to have Regular Contact with or Authority over minor athletes.

**All Adult Participants must follow the required prevention policies of the MAAPP. Many will also need to take the Center's required training. Membership is not required for a person to be an Adult Participant. A person only needs to meet one of the above prongs to meet the Adult Participant definition.**

**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, an NGB, USOPC, or LAO.



## ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PARTICIPATION IN SPORT

Understanding when an activity is related to participation in sport is essential in understanding the MAAPP and In-Program Contact. Activities related to participation in sport not only include practices and competitions, it can also include team travel, lodging, camps, and many other activities that participants engage in. Organizations should continually identify activities related to their sport environment to identify areas where In-Program Contact may occur.

The chart below depicts some common activities that could be related to participation in sport. Each Organization may have additional activities not included below.

TEAM ACTIVITIES	EVENT TRAVEL	OTHER IN-PROGRAM CONTACT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Events</li> <li>• Practice</li> <li>• Fundraisers</li> <li>• Tournaments and games</li> <li>• Film review and strategy meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel to and from events, tournaments, and other activities</li> <li>• Lodging, hotel stays</li> <li>• Pre-event participant meetings</li> <li>• Check-in and registration</li> <li>• Team meals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Celebrations and awards</li> <li>• Pre-event parties and gatherings organized by event hosts</li> <li>• Team photo shoots</li> <li>• Volunteer and community service</li> <li>• Camps</li> <li>• Clinics</li> </ul>

**IN-PROGRAM CONTACT:** Any contact (including communications, interactions, or activities) between an **Adult Participant** and any **Minor Athlete(s)** related to **participation in sport**.

Adult Participant, Minor Athlete, and an activity related to participation in sport all must be present for In-Program Contact. If any one of those three components is missing, then the interaction is not In-Program Contact.

In-Program Contact is a key concept to the Required Prevention Policies. There are many interactions related to sport between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes that occur outside of a facility or sanctioned event. Inclusion of these interactions into the definition of In-Program Contact extends Minor Athlete safety outside of a facility or sanctioned event. In-Program Contact provides a common understanding of how Adult Participants should adhere to the MAAPP in a variety of sport circumstances. It also provides clarity and consistency when an Adult Participant participates in multiple athletic programs.

[VIEW IN-PROGRAM CONTACT THREE PART TEST](#)

[REVIEW SCENARIOS](#)



## REGULAR CONTACT

Regular Contact between an Adult Participant and a minor athlete can occur in a variety of situations. It is important to know that the nature of the contact determines whether it is Regular Contact, not the title of the Adult Participant's role. Adult Participants who have Regular Contact with any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor are required to complete the SafeSport Trained Core and Refresher Courses.

Regular Contact can occur at practices, events, or any other activities related to participation in sport. Each Organization should review all these activities and tailor the Regular Contact definition to their own sport. This will help Adult Participants better determine which individuals have Regular Contact with minor athletes.

**Regular Contact:** 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.

### Examples of Adult Participants with Regular Contact:

- Coaches
- Adult athletes on teams with minor athletes
- Adult athletes regularly training with minor athletes
- Officials
- Team doctors or athletic trainers
- Parent chaperones assigned by the Organization.
- NGB, USOPC, and LAO staff

### General questions to ask to help determine if a role meets the definition of regular contact:

1. What is the access level this role has with minor athletes?
2. How frequently will this role encounter minor athletes?
3. What is the level of engagement that this role has with minor athletes?

### Specific questions for adult athletes to help determine if there is Regular Contact?

1. Does the adult athlete practice with minor athletes?
2. Is the adult athlete on the same team as minor athletes?
3. Does the adult athlete practice at the same facility as the minor athletes and frequently interact with them inside locker rooms or changing areas?
4. Does the adult athlete compete against minor athletes several times a year?

## REVIEW REGULAR CONTACT SCENARIOS





## AUTHORITY

Authority is another key term and has an impact on many of the Center's mandatory training and policy requirements. Adult Participants with Authority over amateur athletes who are minors are required to complete the SafeSport® Trained Core and Refresher courses.

**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.

### Examples of Adult Participants with Authority:

- NGB, USOPC, and LAO staff
- NGB, USOPC, and LAO board members
- Athletic trainers or team doctors
- Officials
- Coaches, head and assistant







## **OBSERVABLE AND INTERRUPTIBLE**

Throughout the MAAPP, you will notice the requirement that all In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be observable and interruptible, unless an exception exists (you can find more information about exceptions in the next section).

So, what does “Observable and Interruptible” mean? For an interaction to be observable, it must occur in a location that is seen by another person. For an interaction to be interruptible, it must occur in a location where another person can stop the interaction. The examples below demonstrate best practices for creating an observable and interruptible environment within sport. Finally, it’s important to make sure all requirements of the MAAPP are met during In-Program Contact.

### **OBSERVABLE**

**The interaction must be easily seen by another person (adult or minor).**

### **INTERRUPTIBLE**

**The interaction must be easily stopped by another person (adult or minor) if necessary.**

- Have two coaches attend practices or training sessions
  - Allow parents to watch training sessions
- Schedule practices and trainings at times when others are present
  - Have meetings in a quiet area of the gym off to the side
    - Include the full team during film review
  - Place medical tents in an easily accessible area at events
- Assign two staff members to complete monitoring/room checks
- Set expectations for conversations with athletes to be near spectators or other teams

# ORGANIZATIONAL REQUIREMENTS



This section details how Organizations – including NGBs, LAOs, and the USOPC – must properly implement the MAAPP throughout the Olympic Movement.

Below, you will find the Organizational Requirements. You will also find best practices in successfully completing each requirement. These requirements are based on the mandatory minimum requirements in the Center’s model policy. Each NGB and the USOPC may decide to extend the policies to a broader spectrum of Adult Participants and Organizational members. NGBs and the USOPC may also choose to make the policies stricter than the mandatory minimum requirements set forth in the Model MAAPP.

## NGB AND USOPC REQUIREMENTS AND BEST PRACTICES

EDUCATION AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS	EDUCATION AND TRAINING BEST PRACTICES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify which groups of the Organization's Adult Participants have Regular Contact with or Authority over amateur athletes who are minors.</li> <li>2. Track the training requirements of the identified Adult Participants.</li> <li>3. Every 12 months, offer training to minor athletes.</li> <li>4. Every 12 months, offer training to parents of minor athletes.</li> </ol> <p>* Remember – you do not need to track individual completions of training offered to minor athletes and parents. Track the date training was offered and how it was provided.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Analyze all groups of Adult Participants in the Organization and decide if they could have Regular Contact with or Authority over amateur athletes who are minors.</li> <li>2. Determine how to track training requirements for the Adult Participants within each group. This system may be manual or through a database.</li> <li>3. If the NGB has LAOs, determine if there are Adult Participants at the LAO that are not tracked by the NGB. If the LAO does have Adult Participants not being tracked, the NGB should communicate to the LAOs the training requirement for those Adult Participants.</li> <li>4. Use newsletters or new membership emails to offer training for minor athletes and parents, as well as meet requirements. Social media posts may be used as an additional form of communication. The Center offers courses at <a href="https://www.safesporttrained.org">SafeSportTrained.org</a>. All minor athletes need parental consent to complete training. It is up to the Organization how to collect that consent.</li> </ol>

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<b>PREVENTION POLICY REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>PREVENTION POLICY BEST PRACTICES</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop Organization-specific Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies utilizing the Center's Model MAAPP.</li> <li>2. Submit developed policies for review and approval by the Center.</li> <li>3. Require LAOs to implement Center-Approved MAAPP.</li> <li>4. Implement policies for all In-Program Contact by communicating requirements to LAOs and participants.</li> <li>5. Have a reporting mechanism that accepts reports for all violations of the MAAPP.</li> <li>6. Investigate and resolve any reports received, unless the violation is reported to the Center and the Center accepts jurisdiction.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the Center's minimum mandatory requirements for the MAAPP.</li> <li>2. Determine if there are areas where additional requirements or sport-specific requirements are best for the Organization.</li> <li>3. Identify activities related to sport that are outside of practice or an event. Communicate those identified activities to participants. Make them aware they must follow the MAAPP for all interactions between Minor Athletes and Adult Participants during these activities as well as events and practices.</li> <li>4. Host training courses or webinars for participants to answer questions and communicate MAAPP requirements. Provide resources (many available here) for specific policies. Share the MAAPP with participants often.</li> <li>5. Use newsletters, new membership emails, event announcements, and social media to communicate the reporting mechanism for MAAPP violations.</li> </ol>



## LAO REQUIREMENTS AND BEST PRACTICES

EDUCATION AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS	EDUCATION AND TRAINING BEST PRACTICES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify individuals in your LAO who have Regular Contact or Authority and are not tracked by the NGB. Require those identified individuals to take training prior to Regular Contact or Authority.</li> <li>2. Track training requirements for Adult Participants using your NGBs tracking mechanism (if applicable), or your own tracking mechanism. This may be manual or through a database.</li> <li>3. Every 12 months, offer training to minor athletes.</li> <li>4. Every 12 months, offer training to parents of minor athletes.</li> </ol> <p>* Remember – you do not need to track individual completions of training offered to minor athletes and parents. Track the date training was offered and how it was provided.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Determine if there are any Adult Participants in your Organization, including staff and board, that are not tracked by the NGB. You may do this through an automated membership system, depending on your Organization's structure.               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If not, then the NGB will track training requirements. The NGB tracking system may mark an Adult Participant as ineligible due to training. LAOs must prevent that participant from participating in all activities where they are in a role of Regular Contact with or Authority over amateur athletes who are minors until they complete training.</li> <li>b. If yes, identify the Adult Participants required to take training that are not tracked by the NGB. Communicate this requirement to them. LAOs must prohibit Adult Participants from participating in roles where they have Regular Contact with or Authority over amateur athletes who are minors until they complete training.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Use newsletters or new membership to offer training for minor athletes and parents, as well as meet requirements. Social media posts may be used as an additional form of communication. The Center offers courses at <a href="https://www.SafeSportTrained.org">SafeSportTrained.org</a>. All minor athletes need parental consent to complete training. It is up to the Organization how to collect that consent.</li> </ol>

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<b>PREVENTION POLICY REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>PREVENTION POLICY BEST PRACTICES</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adopt your NGB's Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies. You can also develop your own Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies based on your NGBs requirements.</li> <li>2. Implement policies for all In-Program Contact.</li> <li>3. Have a reporting mechanism that accepts reports for all violations of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies.</li> <li>4. Investigate and resolve any reports received, unless the violation is reported to the Center and the Center accepts jurisdiction. Your NGB may require all violations outside of the Center's exclusive jurisdiction to be reported to, investigated by, and resolved by the NGB.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use newsletters, new membership emails, signage, event announcements, and social media to communicate the MAAPP requirements to participants at the LAO. Use resources created by your NGB or the Center to communicate MAAPP requirements.</li> <li>2. Identify activities related to sport that are outside of practice or an event. Communicate those activities identified to participants. Make them aware they must follow the MAAPP for all interactions between Minor Athletes and Adult Participants during these activities as well as events and practices.</li> <li>3. Use newsletters, new membership emails, event announcements, and social media to communicate the reporting mechanism for MAAPP violations.</li> <li>4. Work with the NGB to determine how to resolve violations of the MAAPP.</li> </ol>

# EDUCATION AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

## Who must complete training?

- Adult Participants who have **Regular Contact** with any amateur athlete who is a minor;
- Adult Participants who are in a role of **Authority** over any amateur athlete who is a minor; and
- Employees or board members of an NGB, USOPC, or LAO

## How to determine who must complete training

1. List all possible roles that an individual may hold within your Organization or at events.
2. Determine if a role will have Regular Contact with or Authority over amateur athletes who are minors.
  - a. [Click here for more about Regular Contact and Authority](#)
3. Add roles to a table (see below for an example) to track who must complete training. Roles marked with a "Y" under Regular Contact **or** Authority are required to be SafeSport Trained.

ROLE	REGULAR CONTACT	AUTHORITY	REQUIRED TO BE SAFESPORT TRAINED
NGB, USOPC, and LAO staff and board members	N	Y	Y
Adult athletes	Y	N	Y
Coaches	Y	Y	Y
Officials	N	Y	Y
Volunteers	N	N	N

## What training is required?

- Adult Participants who must complete training will take the SafeSport® Trained Core Course and refresher courses.
- Adult Participants who are medical providers and required to complete training may take the Health Professionals course instead of the SafeSport® Trained Core and refresher courses. Organizations should identify these individuals and communicate training requirements to the participants.





### When is training required?

- Adult Participants must complete training every 12 months. After taking the SafeSport® Trained Core, they will complete a refresher course once a year. Every four years, they will complete the SafeSport® Trained Core again.
- Adult Participants who must complete training must complete the required training prior to Regular Contact with an amateur athlete who is a minor begins or within the first 45 days of either initial membership or upon beginning a new role subjecting the adult to this policy, **whichever comes first**.

### Best Practices for Organizations

1. Track training requirements using a membership database or spreadsheet. Check training statuses on a regular basis.
2. You may choose for Adult Participants to “self-select” if they have Regular Contact with amateur athletes who are minors. Make sure to educate Adult Participants on what this entails if you choose to implement this system.
  - a. [Click here for a guide to self-selection](#)
3. Communicate training requirements with LAOs and Adult Participants early and often based on your sport season or membership cycle.

### Does the Center offer exemptions or accommodations to required training?

Yes. Exemptions can be requested by survivors of abuse and misconduct, those with cognitive or physical disabilities, and because of other accessibility issues. The Center also has options available for accommodations to online training courses. You can find how to request an exemption or accommodation on page 11 of the MAAPP.

### Is there additional training available?

Yes. The Center offers more than a dozen SafeSport® courses to help anyone understand how to prevent and recognize abuse in any sport setting including minor athlete and parent training. You can find available courses here.

\*\*Remember, training courses other than SafeSport® Trained Core and Refresher Courses do **not** meet the Education and Training Requirements.

# REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICIES



Sport can foster positive relationships between Minor Athletes and Adult Participants. The Required Prevention Policies aim to protect children while encouraging positive adult-child relationships. The Required Prevention Policies cover common sport situations like travel, individual training sessions, and electronic communications. All Adult Participants who do not fall within one of the below exceptions must follow the Required Prevention Policies during In-Program contact with Minor Athletes.

Within the Required Prevention Policies, there are several situations where consent is required. For a chart of all policy consent information, including the consent type and associated requirements, see [Appendix D](#). You can also find sample consent forms on the [MAAPP Website](#).

## REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICIES EXCEPTIONS

### Does the Required Prevention Policies Have Any Exceptions?

**YES.** In the Required Prevention Policies, there are exceptions that address common relationships and situations in the Olympic and Paralympic Movement. In some instances, an Adult Participant does not need to follow a component of a policy because an exception exists. Where an exception applies, the Adult Participant must follow all of its requirements, such as parental consent.

The following section details the four exceptions found in the Required Prevention Policies, where they apply, and best practices for each exception.

### Close-in-Age Exception

The Close-in-Age Exception exists to allow for specific In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and Minor Athlete if:

1. The Adult Participant does NOT have Authority over the Minor Athlete. The Adult Participant must be in a similar role (e.g., adult athlete) as the Minor Athlete and have no control over them.
2. The adult participant is no more than four years older than the Minor Athlete.

NOTE: This exception is different than the Close-in-Age Exception in the SafeSport Code referring to misconduct.

The Close-in-Age exception will be common among high school and college-age athletes. Often, these athletes are peers, and one becomes an Adult Participant because they turn 18. Once they become an Adult Participant, they must follow the Required Prevention Policies.

The Close-in-Age Exception does not apply to the Education and Training Requirements. Athletes turning 18 will need to take training by their 18th birthday if they have Regular Contact with amateur athletes who are minors. If an individual will take the SafeSport Trained Core before turning 18, parental consent is required.



### **Best Practices for Close-in-Age Exceptions:**

1. Educate Minor Athletes who will turn 18 during the season on their responsibilities as an Adult Participant.
2. Assist adult athletes in collection of consent forms for lodging when the Close-in-Age Exception exists.
3. Educate teams or clubs where the Close-in-Age exception may be common on what requirements they must follow.

## **REVIEW SCENARIOS**

### **Personal Care Assistant Exception**

Personal Care Assistants (PCA) assist athletes who need help with the activities of daily living or in preparation for athletic participation. This support can be provided by a guide for blind or visually impaired athletes. It can also include help with transfer, dressing, showering, administering medication, and using the restroom. When assisting a Minor Athlete, parents and guardians must authorize the Adult Participant PCA to work with their athlete using the requirements below.

PCAs are Adult Participants when they have Regular Contact with Minor Athlete(s) who are not the Minor Athlete they provide care for, or are hired by an Organization. Adult Participant PCAs must meet the following requirements before the PCA Exception may apply:

1. The Minor Athlete's parent or guardian must provide written consent to the Organization for the PCA to provide care/work with their Minor Athlete.
2. The PCA must complete the required training as defined in the Education and Training Policy.
3. The PCA must meet all screening requirements of the Organization.

### **Best Practices for PCA Exception**

1. Identify and track any PCAs that parents hire to monitor their interaction with other Minor Athletes.
2. Educate parents on when a PCA they hire becomes an Adult Participant.
3. Educate LAOs on when a PCA becomes an Adult Participant.

## **REVIEW SCENARIOS**



## Dual Relationship Exception

A Dual Relationship exists when an Adult Participant has a relationship with a Minor Athlete that is outside of the sport program. Examples of Dual Relationships may include family members, mental health professionals, medical professionals, and family friends.

A parent or guardian must provide written consent on an annual basis for the Dual Relationship exception to apply. You can find sample consent forms here. It is important for parents and Organizations to review Dual Relationship exceptions before granting consent.

### Best Practices for Dual Relationship exceptions:

1. Review Dual Relationship exceptions with parents of Minor Athletes. Ensure parents provide informed consent and Adult Participants understand their responsibilities.
2. Provide sample consent forms to Adult Participants.
3. Educate Minor Athletes and parents of Minor Athletes on appropriate interactions with adults.

▶ The Center offers trainings for minor athletes and parents at [SafeSportTrained.org](https://www.safesporttrained.org).

## REVIEW SCENARIOS

## Emergency Exception

Emergencies may happen at any time and are difficult to control. Common examples of emergencies include injuries, inclement weather, and unplanned or serious events. The emergency exception addresses instances where Adult Participants cannot follow the Required Prevention Policies due to unforeseen circumstances or a threat to safety. When you are not able to follow these policies, it's important to consider if it meets the threshold of an emergency and complete any documentation as required by your Organization.

### Best practices for managing emergencies

1. Create a protocol for emergencies. This protocol should contain a documentation form.
2. Communicate the protocol to all LAOs, Adult Participants, and parents and guardians of Minor Athletes.

## VIEW GUIDE TO EMERGENCY EXCEPTIONS



## REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: MEETINGS

Meetings are an important part of sport. Often, it is necessary for an Adult Participant to speak with a Minor Athlete in private. Meetings can occur to discuss behavior, performance, or disqualifications. Other meetings may occur to discuss strategy for an upcoming game. A Minor Athlete may need to speak with a licensed mental health care professional on site.

**All In-Program meetings must be observable or interruptible unless otherwise stated or an exception exists.**

### REQUIREMENTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS

- Communicate policy requirements to all Adult Participants.
- Communicate policy requirements to Minor Athletes and their parents or guardians.
- Communicate requirements to health care providers at sanctioned events or facilities under the Organization's jurisdiction.
- Identify if a meeting with licensed mental health care professional, licensed health care provider, or a student under the supervision of a licensed mental health care professional or licensed health care provider could take place. Create a protocol for health care providers to notify the Organization when meetings happen.

### KEY POINTS TO DISCUSS WITH ADULT PARTICIPANTS

- All In-Program meetings with Minor Athletes must be easily seen by another person (adult or minor).
- All In-Program meetings with Minor Athletes must take place in an area where another person (adult or minor) can stop the meeting.
- Meetings with licensed mental health care professional, licensed health care provider, or a student under the supervision of a licensed mental health care professional or licensed health care provider may take place in a closed-door room if they follow these requirements:
  - » The door remains unlocked.
  - » Another adult is at the facility and knows about the meeting. The second adult does not need to know the Minor Athlete's identity.
  - » The provider notifies the Organization about the meeting.
  - » The provider obtains proper consent. Consent can be withdrawn at any time.
- **Remember: Athletic trainers who are covered under the MAAPP must follow the Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities policy.**

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## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: MEETINGS**

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### **BEST PRACTICES FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Create or use Center resources to communicate the policy requirements.
- Use multiple media platforms to communicate requirements including email, newsletters, social media, event announcements, signage, etc.
- Provide sample consent forms to health care providers and mental health care professionals.
- Perform random checks to confirm consent forms are being collected.
- Encourage parents to take training on child abuse prevention before giving consent.

### **REVIEW SCENARIOS**





## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: INDIVIDUAL TRAINING SESSIONS**

Individual training sessions are a common sport activity. Many athletes request time to work with a coach or expert one-on-one to develop their skills. Individual training sessions occur outside of practice.

**All In-Program individual training sessions must be observable and interruptible unless an exception exists.**

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Communicate policy requirements to all Adult Participants.
- Communicate policy requirements to Minor Athletes and their parents or guardians.
- Communicate consent requirements to all Adult Participants.
- Communicate consent requirements to parents of Minor Athletes.
- Collect or confirm the collection of consent forms before individual training sessions.

### **KEY POINTS TO DISCUSS WITH ADULT PARTICIPANTS**

- All In-Program individual training sessions must be easily seen by another person (adult or minor).
- All In-Program individual training sessions must be in an area where another person (adult or minor) can stop the session.
- Adult Participants will need to collect consent forms if the Organization does not.
- Collect consent forms before the first individual training session and each year after. Consent can be withdrawn at any time.
- Allow the Minor Athlete's parent or guardian to view the training session.

*Continues*



## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: INDIVIDUAL TRAINING SESSIONS**

*Continued from previous page*

### **BEST PRACTICES FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Create or use Center resources to communicate policy requirements.
- Use multiple media platforms to communicate requirements including email, newsletters, social media, event announcements, signage, etc.
- Determine who will collect consent forms for individual training sessions. The Organization or Adult Participants can collect consent. Communicate who should collect consent to LAOs and Adult Participants.
- Provide sample consent forms to LAOs and Adult Participants.
- Perform random checks to confirm the collection of consent forms.

### **REVIEW SCENARIOS**



## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: MANUAL THERAPY AND THERAPEUTIC AND RECOVERY MODALITIES**

Types of manual therapy and therapeutic and recovery modalities can be different for each sport. They can include, but are not limited to, massage, taping, cupping, stretching, cryotherapy, neuromuscular stimulations, or electrical stimulation. This policy also covers athletic taping and minor first-aid such as blister management.

**All In-Program manual therapy and therapeutic and recovery modalities must be observable and interruptible.**

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Communicate policy requirements to all Adult Participants.
- Communicate policy requirements to all Minor Athletes and their parents or guardians.
- Communicate consent requirements to all Adult Participants and parents of Minor Athletes.
- Collect consent forms or confirm consent is being documented.

### **KEY POINTS TO DISCUSS WITH ADULT PARTICIPANTS**

- All In-Program manual therapy and therapeutic and recovery modalities must be in a location where they can be easily seen by another person (adult or minor).
- All In-Program manual therapy and therapeutic and recovery modalities must be in a location where another person (adult or minor) can stop the modality.
- A **second Adult Participant** must always be within a reasonable distance to see the treatment and have knowledge of the treatment.
- Adult Participants providing treatment must have documented consent before treatment. Minor Athletes or their parents or guardians can withdraw consent at any time.
- Minor Athletes must be fully or partially clothed during any treatment. Make sure the Minor Athletes' breast, buttocks, groin, and genitals are always covered during treatment.
- Adult Participants providing treatment must explain the steps they will take. They must also get confirmation from the Minor Athlete before completing that step.
- Adult Participants must allow parents or guardians in the room as an observer.
- Coaches, team leaders, or someone other than a medical provider providing treatment must follow this policy.
- **Remember: The ONLY exception to this policy is the Emergency Exception.**

*Continues*



## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: MANUAL THERAPY AND THERAPEUTIC AND RECOVERY MODALITIES**

*Continued from previous page*

### **BEST PRACTICES FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Create or use Center resources to communicate policy requirements.
- Use multiple media platforms to communicate requirements including email, newsletters, social media, event announcements, signage, etc.
- Identify the common types of manual therapy and therapeutic and recovery modalities for your sport. Include these types of treatment in your Organization's policy or policy communications.
- Identify common providers of modalities in your organization (e.g., EMTs, contracted athletic trainers, massage therapists, team doctors, physical therapists). Communicate policy requirements to all providers before contracting services for events or activities.
- Provide sample consent forms to Adult Participant and LAOs.
- Collect consent forms from parents or guardians and Adult Participants during event registration.
- Post requirements on signage at medical tents and athletic training rooms for sanctioned events or activities.
- Encourage parents to take training on child abuse prevention before giving consent.
- Encourage providers to use techniques that reduce physical touch of Minor Athletes.

### **REVIEW SCENARIOS**



## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS**

Having dedicated spaces for athletes to change clothes, such as locker rooms and changing areas, is important for the privacy and safety of Minor Athletes. Providing these spaces is important, but monitoring them is also necessary to help lower the risk of abuse or misconduct.

**Interactions in these spaces between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes must be observable and interruptible, unless an exception exists.**

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Communicate policy requirements to Adult Participants.
- Communicate policy requirements to all Minor Athletes and their parents or guardians.
- Ensure there is a private or semi-private place for Minor Athletes to change clothes at sanctioned events or facilities. This includes facilities that are owned, rented, or otherwise obtained for practice or any competition.
- Monitor the use of locker rooms and changing areas on a regular and random basis at sanctioned events or facilities. This includes facilities that are owned, rented, or otherwise obtained for practice or any competition.
- Track and abide by parent's or guardian's request for their Minor Athlete to not change or shower with Adult Participant(s). Communicate the request with Adult Participants involved.
- Document consent and approve championship celebrations that may take place in locker rooms or changing areas.

### **KEY POINTS TO DISCUSS WITH ADULT PARTICIPANTS**

- All In-Program interactions between an Adult Participant and Minor Athlete in a locker room or changing area must be easily seen by another person (adult or minor).
- All In-Program interactions between an Adult Participant and Minor Athlete in a locker room or changing area must be easily stopped by another person (adult or minor).
- Do not take photos or videos in any place designated for changing clothes.

*Continues*



## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS**

*Continued from previous page*

### **KEY POINTS TO DISCUSS WITH ADULT PARTICIPANTS**

- Adult Participants must not remove their clothes or behave in a manner that intentionally or recklessly exposes their breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals to a Minor Athlete in a locker room or changing area.
- Showering with Minor Athletes is only acceptable if the Close-in-Age Exception exists, or the Adult Participant is wearing swimwear during a pre- or post- activity rinse.
- Parents or guardians can request that their Minor Athlete not change or shower with an Adult Participant(s). Adult Participants must adhere to this request.
- Championship celebrations in locker rooms must be approved by your Organization. Everyone must be fully clothed and two or more Adult Participants must be present. Make sure proper consent has been given.
- Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants can assist Minor Athletes in locker rooms or changing areas if they have met all necessary requirements.

### **BEST PRACTICES FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Create or use Center resources to communicate policy requirements.
- Use multiple media platforms to communicate requirements including email, newsletters, social media, event announcements, signage, etc.
- Use pre-event communications or team codes of conduct to tell participants where they should change during competition.
- Assign locker room monitors to observe and track access to changing areas.
- Assign individuals to conduct walk throughs of the area during the event. Complete walk throughs on a regular and random basis.
- Create a sign off sheet to track changing area monitoring.
- Post signage and requirements outside all locker rooms or changing areas.

### **REVIEW SCENARIOS**





## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Technology makes communication between teams and individuals easier than ever. The following requirements keep electronic communications with Minor Athletes professional and transparent.

Types of electronic communications include but are not limited to: email, phone calls, texts, social media, health and fitness applications, and video calls or coaching.

**All electronic communications between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be open and transparent, unless an exception exists.**

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Communicate policy requirements to Adult Participants.
- Communicate policy requirements to all Minor Athletes and their parents or guardians.
- Document any requests to stop electronic communications with Minor Athlete(s) from a parent or guardian. Follow all received requests.

### **KEY POINTS TO DISCUSS WITH ADULT PARTICIPANTS**

- All electronic communications between an Adult Participant and Minor Athlete must be open and transparent, unless an exception exists.
- Copy one of the following individuals on any electronic communication including Minor Athletes:
  - » The Minor Athlete's parent or guardian
  - » Another adult family member
  - » Another Adult Participant
- If a Minor Athlete contacts an Adult Participant first, the response must include one of the above people.
- If an Adult Participant contacts an entire team, one of the following should be copied
  - » The Minor Athletes' parents or guardians
  - » Another adult family member
  - » Another Adult Participant

*Continues*



## REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

*Continued from previous page*

### KEY POINTS TO DISCUSS WITH ADULT PARTICIPANTS

- Permitted electronic communications must be professional in nature unless an exception exists.
- Use platforms that allow users to see and track communications.
- Abide by any requests received in writing from parents or guardians to discontinue contact with a Minor Athlete.

### BEST PRACTICES FOR ORGANIZATIONS

- Create or use Center resources to communicate policy requirements.
- Use multiple media platforms to communicate requirements including email, newsletters, social media, event announcements, signage, etc.
- Encourage Adult Participants to send Minor Athletes communications only between 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. local time.
- Encourage Adult Participants not to have private social media connections with Minor Athletes.
- Use team communication apps that are open and transparent. This will help you more easily monitor in-program communications. Share these applications with Adult Participants and LAOs.

### REVIEW SCENARIOS



## REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: TRANSPORTATION

Minor Athletes often need help getting to and from sanctioned events and activities. It's common for coaches and chaperones to provide carpools for athletes. Organizations may also plan or pay for transportation depending on the type of activity. The following section details requirements and best practices for In-Program transportation.

**All In-Program transportation must be observable and interruptible unless otherwise stated or an exception exists.**

### REQUIREMENTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS

- Communicate policy requirements to Adult Participants.
- Communicate policy requirements to Minor Athletes and their parents or guardians.
- Get required consent forms for transportation authorized or funded by the Organization\* annually. Remember that consent can be withdrawn at any time by the Minor Athlete or their parent or guardian.

**\*What does “authorized or funded by the Organization” mean?**

*For certain events or activities, Organizations will plan or pay for transportation to assist athletes. This may include contracting buses to take athletes to the venue or booking flights for travel to and from the event. Please note the additional requirements in place when the Organization authorizes or funds travel.*

### KEY POINTS TO DISCUSS WITH ADULT PARTICIPANTS

- All In-Program transportation must be easily seen by another person (adult or minor).
- All In-Program transportation must be easily stopped by another individual (adult or minor).
- Adult Participants cannot drive one-on-one with Minor Athletes unless advanced, written consent is obtained at least annually or an exception exists. Minor Athletes or their parent or guardian can withdraw consent at any time.
- Adult Participants can drive or transport Minor Athletes if there is another Adult Participant or at least two minors 8 years of age or older.

*Continues*



## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: TRANSPORTATION**

*Continued from previous page*

### **BEST PRACTICES FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Create or use Center resources to communicate policy requirements.
- Use multiple media platforms to communicate requirements including email, newsletters, social media, event announcements, signage, etc.
- Determine who will collect consent forms. Communicate consent requirements to LAOs and Adult Participants.
- Provide sample consent forms to Adult Participants and LAOs.
- Collect consent forms from parents or guardians and Adult Participants during event registration.
- Perform random checks to confirm consent forms are being collected.
- Encourage parents or guardians to pick up their Minor Athlete first and drop them off last for carpool arrangements.
- Encourage parents to take training on child abuse prevention before giving consent.

### **REVIEW SCENARIOS**



## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: LODGING AND RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENTS**

In-Program lodging includes, but is not limited to, hotel stays, shared rooming arrangements, residential stays, billeting and overnight stays during camps, clinics, and competitions. This includes planned interactions, such as meetings and team meals, and unplanned interactions.

**Any interactions with Minor Athletes during In-Program lodging must be observable and interruptible, unless an exception exists.**

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Communicate policy requirements to Adult Participants.
- Communicate policy requirements to all Minor Athletes and their parents or guardians.
- When long term residential environments, including billeting, are arranged by the Organization, ensure all policy requirements are met.
- When lodging is arranged by the Organization, communicate and track training requirements for any Adult Participant traveling with Minor Athletes overnight.
- Collect consent on an annual basis from Minor Athlete's parents and guardians for lodging authorized or funded by the Organization.

### **KEY POINTS TO DISCUSS WITH ADULT PARTICIPANTS**

- All In-Program Contact during lodging must be easily seen by another person (adult or minor).
- All In-Program Contact during lodging must be easily stopped by another person (adult or minor) if needed.
- Adult Participants and Minor Athletes must not share a room, unless an exception exists. Collect consent for all instances of an exception.
- Adult Participants, other than adult athletes, traveling overnight with Minor Athlete(s) are presumed to have Authority and must complete proper training.
- If performing room checks during travel, include at least two adults for all room checks. Make sure all interactions are observable and interruptible.
- Parents or guardians of Minor Athletes can withdraw consent at any time.

*Continues*



## **REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICY: LODGING AND RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENTS**

*Continued from previous page*

### **BEST PRACTICES FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

- Create or use Center resources to communicate policy requirements.
- Use multiple media platforms to communicate requirements including email, newsletters, social media, event announcements, signage, etc.
- Encourage parents to take training on child abuse prevention before giving consent.
- Determine who will collect consent forms. Communicate consent requirements to LAOs and Adult Participants.
- Provide sample consent forms to LAOs and Adult Participants.
- Collect consent forms from parents or guardians and Adult Participants during event registration.
- Include lodging policy reminders in event information packets and event websites.

### **REVIEW SCENARIOS**



# CONCLUSION



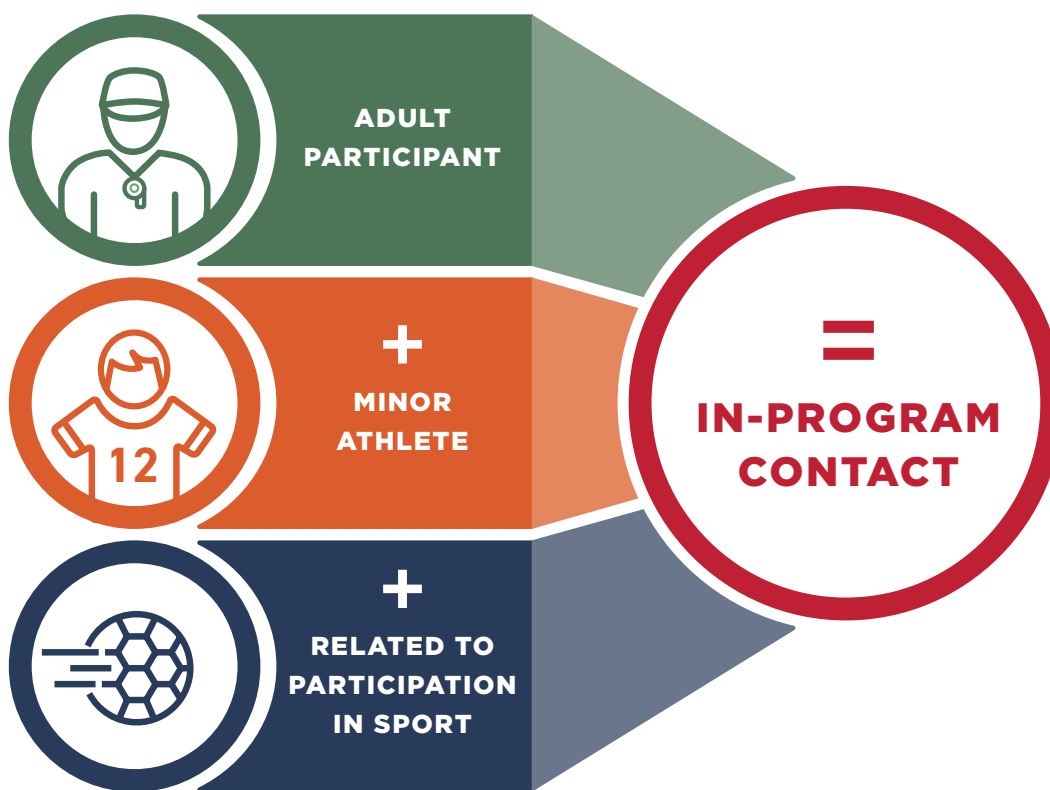
**For NGBs and the USOPC, the Center is available for additional support. Here are ways we can assist:**

- General Assistance: Not sure how to put a policy in place? Facing a logistical challenge? We will assist in finding a solution that works for your organization.
- Consent Forms: We have [sample consent form templates](#) for all policies and exceptions found throughout the MAAPP.
- Site Visits: We will conduct voluntary site visits at regular intervals. This allows for direct feedback on the implementation of the MAAPP requirements at competitions and training sites.
- Membership Structure: The Center can provide insight into successful membership structures. We can also provide feedback on an Organization's current structure.
- Education and Training Requirements: We can provide training and answer questions and concerns related to training requirements and resources.
- Additional Resources: We continually develop and release resources and educational materials for use by NGBs, LAOs, and Adult Participants.

## APPENDIX A In-Program Contact: Three Part Test



**ADULT PARTICIPANT + MINOR ATHLETE +  
RELATED TO PARTICIPATION IN SPORT =  
IN-PROGRAM CONTACT**



As the above equation suggests, all three components:

**ADULT PARTICIPANT + MINOR ATHLETE + RELATED TO SPORT**

must be present for the MAAPP to apply. If one component is absent, then the interaction or activity would **NOT** be considered **IN PROGRAM** and thus not covered by the MAAPP. You can review In-Program Contact scenarios in Appendix E.

**RETURN TO KEY TERMS AND CONCEPTS**

## **APPENDIX B** Training Requirements and Self-Selection

### **What is self-selection?**

Self-selection is a system for tracking Adult Participants. This system identifies who has Regular Contact with amateur athletes who are minors. It can help determine which Adult Participants must be SafeSport® Trained. Self-selection requires participants to select if they have Regular Contact. This system often automatically requires training if the individual has Regular Contact.

### **What types of Organization's should use self-selection?**

While Organization's should always determine what is best for their needs, individual sports or Organizations without membership categories may benefit from a self-selection system. Self-selection can also benefit those without defined age groups. It can be difficult to identify participants with Regular Contact if you do not know who they compete or train with day-to-day. Self-selection helps Adult Participants understand what Regular Contact means based on their role. It also helps Organizations track training requirements for individual Adult Participants.

### **What should be included in a self-selection system?**

- Regular Contact definition — To ensure selection is correct, the Organization should tailor the regular contact definition for self-selection.
  - » Include examples of common roles with regular contact. You may also include questions to help determine Regular Contact (See **Regular Contact Section**).
  - » A description of training requirements — This ensures that Adult Participants are aware of their requirements.
- An explanation of why Adult Participants must complete training if they have Regular Contact with minor athletes.
- A “Yes” or “No” option for individuals to select if they have Regular Contact with minor athletes.

### **What does my Organization need to do to meet training requirements?**

Once an Adult Participant selects that they have Regular Contact, they must complete training every 12 months. If the Adult Participant does not complete the required training, mark them as “not in good standing” or “pending” in your tracking system. The Organization should also communicate to the Adult Participant that there should be no further Regular Contact with minor athletes until they complete training. Keep in mind this includes interactions at practice, team activities, events, etc. The system should also prevent the Adult Participant from participating in a role of Regular Contact or Authority at any sanctioned events or activities until they complete training.

Sometimes an Adult Participant selects “no” to having Regular Contact, but you later find them to be in a role of Regular Contact with minor athletes. In that case, it is important to educate the Adult Participant on why they must be SafeSport® Trained. The Organization must also update their tracking system to require training for that individual.

**Remember:** Adult Participants required to be SafeSport Trained must complete training before regular contact with an amateur athlete who is a minor begins or within the first 45 days of either initial membership or upon beginning a new role subjecting the adult to this policy, whichever comes first.

## **APPENDIX C** Guide to Emergency Exceptions



### **Determining Emergency Exceptions:**

When a situation arises that is out of the control of Adult Participants, it's important to assess if the emergency exception applies. First, Adult Participants should ask the following questions to determine if a situation is an emergency that warrants an exception.

- 1.** Is there a threat to safety? Is anyone in danger?
- 2.** Is someone injured? Does that injury require immediate care?
- 3.** Is the Adult Participant able to remedy the situation while still following the Required Prevention Policies?
- 4.** Is the Adult Participant able to contact another Adult Participant or the Minor Athlete's parent or guardian safely and reasonably to avoid a one-on-one interaction? This can be done in person or electronically.

### **Emergency Examples:**

- 1.** Dangerous or unexpected weather
  - a.** After practice, a coach is waiting in his car for all the athletes to be picked up. While waiting for the last Minor Athlete to be picked up, a strong storm rolls into the area. To shield the Minor Athlete from the storm, the coach has the Minor Athlete come sit in the car. To mitigate the situation, he contacts the parents via phone while waiting to let them know the Minor Athlete is sitting in his car due to the storm. He stays on the line with them until they arrive.
- 2.** Injuries
  - a.** A Minor Athlete is injured during an event and must be transported to the nearest hospital. The Minor Athlete's parents are not at the event. The coach calls the parents to tell them about the injury and that they will be taking the athlete to the hospital.
  - b.** A Minor Athlete is injured during practice and must be treated on-site in an area that is not easily observable and interruptible. The injury requires immediate care by the on-site athletic trainer.
- 3.** Unexpected events and last-minute changes
  - a.** During a practice or an event, a Minor Athlete's parent has a car accident and cannot come to pick up their child. The parent contacts the coach, explains the situation, and asks for the coach to bring that Minor Athlete home.
  - b.** Practice location or event start time has changed at the last minute. The team manager calls the Minor Athlete to be sure they get the message that the practice location changed.
  - c.** A Minor Athlete is travelling unaccompanied to a foreign country for a national team event. The Minor Athlete calls their coach about a concern with their travel. The coach, to ensure the athlete is safe, answers the call to discuss the concern with the athlete.



4. Threat to personal safety or reporting a concern.
  - a. A Minor Athlete emails an Adult Participant about potential physical abuse that is happening in their home. They request that the Adult Participant not mention this information to anyone else. In this situation, the Adult Participant does not need to copy another Adult Participant in their response. The Adult Participant will have to follow all the mandatory reporting requirements and any other Organizational requirements about Minor Athlete abuse.
  - b. A Minor Athlete calls an Adult Participant because of an unplanned, serious event. Examples include an accident, weather emergency, suicidal thoughts or behavior, or reporting abuse. In this situation, the Adult Participant should stay on the call as long as needed to ensure the safety of the Minor Athlete. The Adult Participant should follow the Organization's emergency protocol. They should also be sure to contact the proper individual at the Organization or authorities.

### **Best practices for participants to manage emergencies**

1. Narrate or explain the steps you will take to the Minor Athlete when assisting with an emergency.
2. Call or contact the Minor Athlete's parent or guardian to explain the situation if appropriate.
3. Contact your Organization as soon as possible to document the emergency circumstances and all steps taken.
4. If you are one-on-one with a Minor Athlete, you should ensure that interactions are observable and interruptible as soon as you are able to, and it is safe to do so.
5. If an athlete comes to you to report abuse, remember to listen. Gather the information, provide appropriate support, and immediately make a report. Then, document this emergency circumstance as required by your Organization.

### **Documenting Emergency Exceptions**

Adult Participants should always document emergency situations according to their Organization's protocol. When documenting emergencies, consider including the following:

- Times, locations, and activities impacted by the emergency, and individuals involved.
- What caused the emergency exception (weather, injury, etc.).
- What steps you took during the emergency.
- Steps you took to follow the Required Prevention Policies (if able).
  - » E.g., Narrated steps taken to Minor Athlete, called parents to stay on the line while transporting athlete, etc.
- Outcomes and steps you took after the emergency.

## APPENDIX D Consent Forms



There are several scenarios within the Required Prevention Policies in which you must get consent from a Minor Athlete’s parent or guardian. Below you will find information about how often and in what format to collect consent.

You can find sample consent forms on the [MAAPP Website](#) and customize them to fit your Organization’s needs. Your Organization should consult with your legal counsel to ensure compliance with any local or state laws or additional policies to which your Organization adheres.

POLICY	EVERY INSTANCE	ANNUALLY	WRITTEN	DOCUMENT
Personal Care Assistant Exception		✓	✓	
Personal Care Assistant Exception in Locker Room		✓	✓	
Individual Training Sessions		✓	✓	
Dual Relationship Exception		✓	✓	
Transportation – Adult Participant		✓	✓	
Transportation – Adult Participant one-on-one with Minor Athlete		✓	✓	
Transportation – Sanctioned by Organization		✓	✓	
In-Program Lodging		✓	✓	
Hotel/Shared Room – Close-in-Age Exception	✓		✓	
Hotel/Shared Room – PCA Exception	✓		✓	
Hotel/Shared Room – Dual Relationship Exception	✓		✓	
Meetings with Licensed Mental Health Providers			✓	*
Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities		✓		✓
Media and Championship Celebrations in Locker Rooms		✓		✓

\*Obtained by provider as required by law

**RETURN TO POLICY**

## APPENDIX E | Scenarios



Each of the following scenarios are based on the minimum mandatory components of the Center's Model MAAPP. Every Organization may choose to go beyond these minimum requirements and set standards that are stricter. We created these scenarios to help Organizations understand the policy and educate their participants.

### IN-PROGRAM CONTACT SCENARIOS

Kai is a coach for the USA Boxing Youth High Performance team. The Youth High Performance team consists of athletes who are 17 and 18 years old.

Kai scheduled an individual training session with Miranda (17). This training session will not take place at the national training facility, but at the gym closest to Miranda's house.

#### Would this session be In-Program Contact?

**YES.** Kai is an Adult Participant in her role as a coach. Miranda is a Minor Athlete as she is under 18 and participated in an NGB program in the last 12 months (as a current member of the Youth High Performance Team), and this training session relates to participation in sport. So, even though the training does not take place at the national training facility, it is still in-program contact.

#### If Kai and Miranda happen to run into each other at the gym and decide to train together, is this instance In-Program Contact?

**YES.** Training together, although unplanned, is still an activity related to participation in sport. So, this instance would be In-Program Contact. Kai should ensure that their interactions are observable and interruptible.

#### If Kai and Miranda happen to run into each other at the movie theater and are seeing the same movie, is this instance In-Program Contact?

**NO.** While you have an Adult Participant and Minor Athlete, this activity was not planned as a part of a team activity and would not be In-Program Contact. It is always best practice for an Adult Participant to keep all interactions with a Minor Athlete observable and interruptible, even during situations that are not In-Program.

Jackson is a coach at a USA Track and Field member club. Several Minor Athletes who belong to Jackson's club are also members of his church. This weekend, the church is having a volunteer event after the service.

**If Jackson and the Minor Athletes attend, will this interaction be In-Program Contact?**

**NO.** While the Adult Participant (Jackson) and Minor Athletes are present, the volunteer event is not related to participation in sport since it is organized by the church. So, the interaction is not considered In-Program Contact, and the MAAPP does not apply.

**If Jackson's club decides to hold a fundraiser to raise money for new uniforms at Jackson's church, would the interactions between Jackson and her Minor Athlete's at this event be In-Program?**

**YES.** While the interaction is taking place at a church, a fundraiser for uniforms is an activity related to participation in sport.

---

Sabrina is a trainer and an Adult Participant who has a new student, Devante (17). Devante is considering competing in the Regional Equestrian Festival in two months but has not signed up yet. He last competed at a sanctioned event 9 months prior. Devante is training with Sabrina at a private horse farm where his horse is boarded.

**While he is training with Sabrina, is it In-Program Contact?**

**YES.** This training session is in-program contact. Sabrina is an Adult Participant, and Devante is a Minor Athlete. They are engaging in an activity related to participation in sport. Devante's status as a Minor Athlete is confirmed because he competed at an event partially or fully under the jurisdiction of an NGB in the last 9 months. While he is unsure of his next competition, the MAAPP applies for 12 months from his last involvement with a sanctioned NGB/USOPC/LAO program. So, Sabrina needs to follow the MAAPP while training Devante. If Devante does not compete before those 12 months lapses, the MAAPP will cease to apply until he again participates in a sanctioned program, event, activity, or competition.

**If Devante has not competed at a sanctioned event for 14 months, has no intention of competing at a USEF event, and is not a member of USEF, is this interaction considered In-Program Contact?**

**NO.** Devante would not be a Minor Athlete as defined by the MAAPP because he has not competed for at least 12 months. If Devante decides to compete or participate in a sanctioned program, event, or activity, he will be a Minor Athlete and the MAAPP will apply. It is best practice for Sabrina to still ensure that all interactions with Devante are observable and interruptible.



Derek is 16 years old and a participant in his local 4-H club shooting program. He has participated in 4-H for the past three years but never participated in any USA Shooting practice or event. Derek's 4-H Instructor, Richard, is also a coach at the local USA Shooting Club.

**Is the interaction between Derek and Richard during 4-H class considered In-Program Contact?**

**NO.** In this scenario, Derek does not meet the definition of Minor Athlete. While there is an Adult Participant and an activity related to sport, without a Minor Athlete as defined by the MAAPP, there is no In-Program Contact. In this situation, it is still best practice to keep all interactions observable and interruptible.

---

Derek is 16 years old and a participant in his local 4-H club shooting program. He has participated in 4-H for the past three years. While Derek does not plan to participate in future USA Shooting events, he did compete three months ago. Derek's 4-H Instructor, Richard, is also a coach at the local USA Shooting Club.

**Is the interaction between Derek and Richard during 4-H class considered In-Program Contact?**

**YES.** In this scenario, Derek does meet the definition of Minor Athlete because he has competed within the last 12 months. In addition to Derek being a Minor Athlete, Richard is an Adult Participant, and the interaction is related to participation in sport.

---

Derek is 16 years old and a participant in his local 4-H club shooting program. He has participated in 4-H for the past three years. Derek was a member of USA Shooting before but has not been a member or participated in any USA Shooting practices or competitions for 13 months. Derek's 4-H Instructor, Richard, is also a coach at the local USA Shooting Club.

**Is the interaction between Derek and Richard during 4-H class In-Program Contact?**

**NO.** In this scenario, Derek does not meet the definition of Minor Athlete because his participation in USA Shooting was over 12 months ago. In this situation, it is still best practice to keep all interactions observable and interruptible.

---

Derek is 16 years old and a member of the local USA Shooting Club. Derek is also a participant in his local 4-H club shooting program. He has participated in 4-H for the past three years. Derek is attending his local 4-H club meeting. His USA Shooting Coach is his instructor at the meeting at the 4-H grounds. The USA Shooting Club does not hold practice at the 4-H grounds.

**Is the interaction between Derek and Richard during 4-H class considered In-Program Contact?**

**YES.** In this scenario, there is an Adult Participant, a Minor Athlete, and an activity related to participation in sport. The location of the activity does not affect whether this situation is In-Program Contact. Richard must follow all MAAPP requirements during his interactions with Derek.

**RETURN TO POLICY**

## REGULAR CONTACT SCENARIOS

Moira is a reporter for CBS Sports. This year, she will be attending several USA Gymnastics premier events. At each event she will conduct interviews with participating athletes, including Minor Athletes. The area where the interviews are being conducted will be observable and interruptible.

### Does Moira's role at the event meet the definition of Regular Contact?

**YES.** Moira's role includes ongoing interactions over a 12-month period. She will have direct and active engagement with Minor Athletes at the competitions. She will need to complete the Center's training requirements before attending the first competition.

---

Twyla, a parent of a girl's hockey player, is volunteering at a tournament hosted by the local USA Hockey club. Twyla is assigned to supervise the concession stand with another parent where she will sell items for the entire duration of the tournament (12 hours). Parents, players (all Minor Athletes), coaches, and officials can all buy items from the stand.

### Does Twyla have Regular Contact with Minor Athletes?

**NO.** While Twyla may have incidental contact with Minor Athletes, it is not ongoing or planned as part of her responsibilities. Instead of active contact, her interactions would be passive contact.

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Stevie is an avid master triathlete. She decides to volunteer twice per month at USA Triathlon club youth races as a way of giving back to her favorite sport. This weekend's event is her fourth volunteer event. Stevie is assigned to the transition area where she will assist athletes as they finish swimming and move to the cycling portion of the race.

### Does Stevie have Regular Contact with Minor Athletes?

**YES.** Stevie has Regular Contact and must complete the training requirements of the Center. Her volunteer role means she engages with Minor Athletes multiple times throughout the year. Additionally, Stevie chose to work at events that only include Minor Athletes. Also, Stevie already worked four youth events, which aligns with the "ongoing interaction" portion of the Regular Contact definition.

Alexis is an Adult Athlete for her USA Judo club and a USA Judo member. When registering for her USA Judo membership, Alexis self-selected that she does not have Regular Contact with amateur athletes who are minors.

Alexis' club hosts training sessions for Minor Athletes on weeknights throughout the summer. Alexis trains with her coach separately from these training sessions at different times.

**Did Alexis correctly self-select that she does not have Regular Contact?**

**YES.** Alexis does not have direct and active interactions with Minor Athletes during her training sessions. While Alexis is an Adult Participant and must therefore follow the Required Prevention Policy during any interactions with Minor Athletes, she is not required to be SafeSport® Trained.

Alexis decides to volunteer with her coach three nights a week throughout the summer to help demonstrate at Minor Athlete training sessions at the club.

**Did Alexis correctly self-select that she does not have Regular Contact?**

**NO.** Alexis now has ongoing interactions with Minor Athletes where she is in direct contact with them. Alexis must complete training before being in this role.

**RETURN TO POLICY**

**CLOSE-IN-AGE EXCEPTION SCENARIOS**

Madeline (19) recently started working as an assistant coach for USA Artistic Swimming Club after competing for many years on a team with Gina (16).

**Would Madeline meet the Close-in-Age Exception?**

**NO.** While Madeline is not more than 4 years older than Gina, she now has Authority over Minor Athletes on the team. She no longer meets the requirements for the Close-in-Age Exception.

**If Madeline were not a coach but competing with Gina, does the Close-in-Age Exception apply?**

**YES.** Madeline would not have a role of Authority over Gina as an athlete, and they are within four years of age. The Close-in-Age Exception would apply. Although certain aspects of the prevention policies would not apply, Madeline would still need to complete the Center's annual training.

Jake is a 20-year-old athlete who wants to help a younger teammate, Ray, with his training for an upcoming biathlon competition. Ray is 15 years old. Jake offers to meet with Ray during a training camp to give him some pointers before their competition.

**Does the Close-in-Age Exception apply to Jake and Ray's interactions?**

**NO.** Jake is more than four years older than Ray, so he must ensure that all interactions with Minor Athletes still follow the Meetings Policy.

Terry is a 21-year-old assistant coach for their local water polo club. Next month, Terry wants to offer training sessions for individual athletes from the club who range in age from 15-17 years old. Terry mentions to the head coach that they will only need to get consent forms for athletes who are 15-16 years old, because the Close-in-Age Exception applies to athletes who are 17 years old.

**Is Terry correct that they do not need to collect consent forms?**

**NO.** While Terry is within 4 years of age of the 17-year-old athletes, they have a role of Authority over all Minor Athletes on the team. Terry must follow the Individual Training Sessions policy and get consent at least annually before providing individual training sessions for the Minor Athletes.

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Rosa is a 19-year-old adult athlete on a team with athletes ages 16-19 years old. Rosa texts her 17-year-old teammate, Amy, to tell her that she can pick her up for practice next week.

**Are Rosa and Amy’s interactions acceptable under the MAAPP?**

**YES.** Rosa and Amy are within 4 years of age and Rosa does not have Authority over Amy, so the Close-in-Age exception applies. Rosa can text Amy and drive her to practice.

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Doug, 15, and Adrian, 18, are teammates on a USA Softball club team. This weekend, they will be traveling to a state tournament out of town and the club has assigned them to the same hotel room.

**Is this lodging arrangement acceptable under the MAAPP?**

**YES.** Adrian is no more than 4 years older than Doug and has no Authority over him. The Close-in-Age Exception exists for this rooming arrangement. However, consent is required for the rooming arrangement. The club should consider collecting this consent from Doug’s parent or guardian to help Adrian meet requirements.

**RETURN TO POLICY**

## PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANTS EXCEPTIONS

Devon is a Minor Athlete at a sled hockey club. Devon's parents hired Kiera as a PCA. Kiera will assist in taking Devon to practice and competitions. Kiera will not need to assist Devon in the locker room or interact with other Minor Athlete(s) at practice or competitions on a regular basis.

### Is Kiera considered an Adult Participant that needs to follow the MAAPP?

**NO.** Devon's parents hired Kiera, not the Organization. If the care that Kiera provides to Devon does not lead her to have Regular Contact with Minor Athlete(s) other than Devon, she is not an Adult Participant. Then she is not required to follow the MAAPP.

### If the Organization hired Kiera, would she be an Adult Participant that needs to follow the MAAPP?

**YES.** All PCAs hired by an Organization are Adult Participants and will need to meet all the requirements for the PCA exception to apply. They must complete requirements before working with Minor Athletes.

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Flynn is a 14-year-old athlete that competes for US Association of Blind Athletes in a goalball program. Flynn's parents hired Phillip as a PCA to assist in taking Flynn to practice and competition. He also helps Flynn get dressed in the locker room before and after practices and competition.

### Is Phillip an Adult Participant that needs to follow the MAAPP?

**YES.** Flynn's parents hired Phillip, not the Organization. However, Phillip's need to assist Flynn in the locker room will put him in Regular Contact with other Minor Athlete(s). That makes him an Adult Participant.

### What steps need to be taken before Phillip meets the PCA exception and can assist Flynn in the locker room?

1. Flynn's parents must provide **written** consent to the organization.
2. Phillip must complete the SafeSport® Trained Core.
3. Phillip must meet all the Organization's screening requirements.

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Peter, a national team para track and field coach, is attending a competition with his team of 12–14-year-old para-athletes. While getting ready for the competition, Peter assists multiple Minor Athletes with getting dressed in the locker room. Peter tells the team that all athletes must stay in the locker room until everyone is ready for competition.

### Did Peter follow the Locker Room Policy?

**YES.** Peter can assist his athletes but must ensure that the interaction is observable and interruptible. All athletes are in the locker room while he is assisting them. They can easily observe the interaction and stop it if needed.

## RETURN TO POLICY

## DUAL RELATIONSHIP SCENARIOS

Elaine is a Minor Athlete competing for a local U.S. Figure Skating Synchronized Skating club. Elaine's coach, Marla, and her mother, Estelle, competed on the same figure skating team when they were younger. Over the years, Marla and Estelle maintained a close friendship. When Marla became Elaine's coach, she had already known Elaine for many years. She was often at Elaine's home visiting.

### Does the relationship between Elaine and Marla qualify as a Dual Relationship?

**YES.** The previously established relationship between Estelle and Marla would qualify as a Dual Relationship. The relationship exists outside of the sport program. For Marla to receive a Dual Relationship Exception to any of the policies, Estelle would need to provide written consent to the Organization on an annual basis authorizing what exceptions Marla is allowed.

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George, an Adult Participant, is Susan's coach and uncle. Susan is a Minor Athlete.

### Is George able to pick Susan up from her house and take her to practice?

**YES, with written consent.** Since George is Susan's uncle, they have a Dual Relationship. For George to be allowed to pick Susan up, her parent or guardian must provide written consent on a yearly basis to the Organization.

### Is George able to text Susan one-on-one?

**YES, with written consent.** All Electronic Communications between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must follow the policy. Since George is an Adult Participant, he will need written consent to text Susan about anything.

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Helen is the director of a local bowling association. Her daughter, Ruthie (10), is competing in the association's youth league. Ruthie's coach is Barbara, who has been coaching the team for 5 years. Helen and Barbara met through the league program while working together. They have developed a strong friendship. Ruthie's nickname for Barbara is Auntie Babs.

### Can Barbara train Ruthie one-on-one during an individual training session?

**YES, with written consent.** The training session can be one-on-one if Barbara or the local bowling association have a Dual Relationship consent form on file from Helen.

Barbara has a Dual Relationship with Ruthie. She has written consent to provide one-on-one training sessions to Ruthie.

### Would the consent for individual training extend to Electronic Communications?

**NO.** Helen has provided a consent form for Barbara to provide individual training sessions to Ruthie. She must provide written consent for Barbara to have one-on-one electronic communications separately.

Besides serving as a swimming club head coach, Jerry is also an NCAA coach. Currently, Jerry is working in the capacity of an NCAA coach and actively recruiting one of the Minor Athletes at their club.

**Can Jerry send one-on-one communication to the Minor Athlete? Is he required to copy an Adult Participant or the Minor Athlete's parent or guardian in compliance with the Center's mandatory requirements?**



Jerry is working in the capacity of an NCAA recruiter. This contact would fall under the Dual Relationship exception. Jerry needs to obtain a Dual Relationship consent form from the Minor Athlete's parent prior to sending any one-on-one communications.

**RETURN TO POLICY**

**MEETINGS SCENARIOS**

Jessica, a Minor Athlete has a scheduled appointment with Winston, her para-swim team's sport psychologist. Before the appointment, the other adult scheduled to be present at the facility called in sick and cannot be present.

**Can Jessica still have her appointment or does the appointment need to be cancelled?**



If Jessica's parent or guardian agrees to stay at the facility during the appointment, then the meeting can still happen. If Jessica's parents are unwilling or unable to stay at the facility during the appointment, then they need to reschedule the appointment. The MAAPP requires at least one other adult present in the facility who is aware of the appointment while it is happening.

**Can Jessica's parents wait in their car?**



**NO.** Jessica's parents need to be in the facility while the meeting is taking place.

**Do Jessica's parents need to be in the room during the appointment?**



**NO.** The other adult present at the facility needs to know the meeting is taking place and be in the facility. They do not need to be in the room.

**Are there any other requirements that need to be followed for this meeting?**



**YES.** The sport psychologist or the team will need to notify the Organization of the meeting. The door must remain unlocked during the meeting. They must also have appropriate consent.

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Cece, a Minor Athlete, is disqualified from a US Speedskating short track competition. After the race, Caroline, an official and Adult Participant, had a one-on-one conversation with Cece. This conversation was off to the side and out in the open, and she explained the reason Cece was disqualified.

**Is Caroline's meeting with Cece acceptable?**



**YES.** Caroline's interaction with Cece was observable and interruptible. It took place during a competition, off to the side of the finish, and in the presence of other officials, coaches, and volunteers.

Reagan is a national team coach for USA Fencing. During practice, Reagan took Nick, a Minor Athlete, out into the hallway of the facility to discuss his lack of effort. Because of the sensitive nature of the discussion, there were no other individuals present.

**Is Reagan’s meeting with Nick acceptable?**

**NO.** This violates the policy because this one-on-one interaction is not observable. Reagan should have pulled Nick off to the side of the strip in the sight of other individuals present to have the private conversation

**RETURN TO POLICY**

**INDIVIDUAL TRAINING SESSION SCENARIOS**

Deandra, a Minor Athlete, asked her coach, Maureen, for some individual training. The only time that works for her schedule is before the facility opens and during a time when no other individual is present. Maureen (Adult Participant) spoke with Deandra’s parents and said that the only way she would provide this individual training is if one of them agreed to be present during the training sessions. The parents agreed and signed a consent form.

**Did Maureen follow the Individual Training Sessions Policy?**

**YES.** By ensuring that one parent would always be present and in the facility during the training sessions along with getting a consent form signed, Maureen is following the policy.

**If the individual training session took place at a time when the facility was open and others were present, would Deandra’s parent or guardian need to be present at the training session?**

**NO.** However, Deandra’s parent or guardian would still need to provide written consent. If there are other people at the rink, Deandra’s parent or guardian would not need to be present.

**If Maureen received verbal consent from Deandra’s parent or guardian before the individual training session, is she meeting the policy requirements?**

**NO.** Verbal consent does not meet the requirements. To comply with the policy, Maureen would need to get written consent from the parent or guardian before the start of the first individual training session each year.

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Charlie is a USA Softball coach. During practice, he pulled Dennis, a Minor Athlete, off to the side to work one-on-one while the other coaches worked with the rest of the group. Dennis was new to the sport, and so he needed additional skill work.

**Would this be considered an individual training session?**

**NO.** Pulling an athlete off to the side during practice to work on skills is not considered an individual training session. Charlie must still ensure all interactions with Dennis remain observable and interruptible.

**RETURN TO POLICY**



## MANUAL THERAPY AND THERAPEUTIC AND RECOVERY MODALITIES SCENARIOS

Robin, a Minor Athlete, pulled a muscle last week, and their coach recommended they see Marshall, the Boccia team's athletic trainer, before competing again. At practice, Marshall allowed Carl, Robin's parent, and an Adult Participant due to his role as a coach, to be in the room as an observer. The athletic training room is attached to the practice facility. The door was kept open while practice was happening. Marshall made sure that both Robin and Carl gave consent for athletic training. He narrated all the steps he performed. Robin was fully clothed during their therapy.

### Did Marshall follow all the requirements for the Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities Policy?

**YES.** Marshall ensured that the interaction was observable and interruptible by keeping the door open and allowing Carl to be with Robin. Carl gave documented consent for the treatment through the Organization. Marshall checked to make sure the consent form had been signed. If Carl were not an Adult Participant, there would need to be a second Adult Participant in the same room when Marshall provided treatment to Robin.

Two Minor Athletes are in the athletic training room waiting to receive treatment. In the same room, athletic trainer Ted (Adult Participant) is treating Quinn, also a Minor Athlete, for a calf strain by massaging his calf. The Minor Athletes leave the room for a team meeting, and Ted stops treating Quinn until they return.

### Was Ted following the Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities Policy

**NO.** Ted can only provide treatment for Quinn with another Adult Participant present. Even though other Minor Athletes are in the room, making it observable and interruptible, all manual therapy and therapeutic and recovery modalities must include a second Adult Participant. Before treatment, Ted must also make sure he has documented consent from Quinn's parent or guardian within the past year.

Lily is an athletic trainer hired by the National Wheelchair Basketball Association. She is treating James, a Minor Athlete, for a back injury. Lily and James are the only two in the room, but the door is open, and anyone can come and go as they please. Lily received proper consent to treat James. In an adjacent office, which has a window into the athletic training room, is Lily's supervisor, Gary. Gary can see everything that is happening in the athletic training room.

### Is Lily's treatment of James acceptable under the MAAPP?

**NO.** Lily can only treat James with another Adult Participant physically present in the room. Gary being in an adjacent room that has a window looking into the athletic training room is not enough. For Lily to treat James, Gary needs to be physically inside the athletic training room.

Victoria is contracted as an EMT for the USA Roller Sports indoor national championships that includes Minor Athletes. She is working at the medical tent area of the competition to provide care in the event of an injury.

**Is Victoria required to follow the Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities Policy based on her role at the event?**

**YES.** Because Victoria is at the event to provide medical care, she is required to follow the MAAPP for any treatment provided to Minor Athletes.

**Does Victoria need to take the SafeSport® Trained Core?**

**NO.** Victoria is on site for emergencies only. She will not have Regular Contact with Minor Athletes due to the type of medical services she will provide. Victoria is not required to take SafeSport® Trained Core unless the NGB requires her to do so.

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Stella is an athletic trainer for a local hospital. She is hired to work during an upcoming USA Baseball event. During the event, Stella will be the only athletic trainer at the complex. On the first day of the competition, Stella is called to a dugout to assist an athlete with an injury. The coach is in the dugout with the athlete and checks in with her during his treatment regularly.

**Is Stella's treatment of the athlete acceptable under the Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities Policy?**

**YES.** There is a second Adult Participant present for treatment. The interaction is also observable and interruptible. Stella should ensure that a coach or other Adult Participant is always present during treatment and that consent is documented. She must also narrate the steps of her treatment to the athlete.

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Gael is a coach for the local volleyball club within his region. At practice last week, one of Gael's Minor Athletes, Zoey, sprained her ankle and needed it taped. The volleyball club does not have an athletic trainer on site for all practices, so Gael taped Zoey's ankle for her.

**Does this treatment fall under the Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities Policy?**

**YES.** Gael is providing a modality for Zoey by taping her ankle. Gael must ensure that this modality adheres to the Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities Policy.

**RETURN TO POLICY**

## LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS SCENARIOS

An Artistic Swim club utilizes a YMCA facility to practice. They do not rent out the entire facility during their practice time. They share locker room facilities with the public.

### How should the club provide a semi-private or private area for Minor Athletes to change?

- a. Many locker rooms also have bathroom stalls that can be used as a semi-private location for Minor Athletes to change.
- b. A facility may also have a family restroom that a Minor Athlete can use as a private location to change.
- c. If neither of these options are available, an LAO or NGB can use a pop-up changing tent or put-up drapery for the Minor Athletes to have a semi-private area to change.

### Does the club need to communicate to the Minor Athletes what changing areas are available to them?

It is always in the best interest of the Minor Athlete to let them know all available changing areas designated for them. Otherwise, some Minor Athletes will not be aware that they can change in stalls or another private bathroom.

### Does the club need to monitor the locker room even though not all individuals in the locker room will be covered by the policy?

**YES.** Since this locker room is open to individuals who are not covered by the policy, it is important to monitor the locker rooms. Adult Participants monitoring the locker rooms need to be sure they are never one-on-one with a Minor Athlete.

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Eleanor is the Board President of a local Badminton club. She is planning an event at a local facility that will not have locker rooms available. The club advised athletes that they should arrive at the competition dressed and should not need access to changing areas during the competition. There will be public restrooms available for any unplanned situations that may occur.

### Does Eleanor's plan adhere to the Locker Rooms and Changing Areas Policy?

**YES.** The club stated that locker rooms will not be needed at this competition site. They will still have restrooms available for any situation where a Minor Athlete may need to change on site. Restroom stalls would be a semi-private area for changing.

### Do the public restrooms need to be monitored at this event?

**NO.** The club will not use a designated locker room or changing area and it advised that all athletes should come to the event changed. So, the club does not need to provide monitors, but they may choose to do so as a best practice.

Jason's field hockey club has a competition next weekend at a rental facility that does not have locker rooms available. As Board President, Jason has put out a notice about how the club will provide changing areas for the athletes of all teams competing (ages 17-25). Each team will have 15 minutes allotted to them before the competition to use the facility's restrooms as changing rooms. While the athletes are changing, there will be volunteers monitoring changing rooms to ensure that Adult Participants are not one-on-one with Minor Athletes.

### **Does this solution follow the Locker Room and Changing Areas Policy?**

**YES.** The volunteer monitoring the changing area needs to make sure that Adult Participants are not one-on-one with Minor Athletes in the restrooms while they are being used as changing rooms. The club must also ensure that Adult Participants are not intentionally or recklessly exposing themselves to Minor Athletes while changing.

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Tahani is a 19-year-old diver competing at a USA Diving Zone Championship this weekend. The event will host athletes ages 14-20 throughout different stages of the event. There will be designated locker rooms at the facility for competitors to use before competition.

### **Can Tahani use the locker room at the same time as a 14-year-old Minor Athlete?**

**YES.** Tahani must ensure that she is never one-on-one with a Minor Athlete in the locker room. Tahani may change in the same locker room as Minor Athletes if needed, but only if she makes sure any interactions are observable and interruptible.

### **Can Tahani use the locker room showers at the same time as other multiple competitors?**

**YES** — if she is wearing swimwear, or the Close-in-Age Exception applies.

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Janet, a Minor Athlete, and her curling club just won a big match against their biggest rival. They are celebrating in the locker room. Some of Janet's teammates pull out their phones and begin taking selfies and pictures with their teammates. Everyone is fully clothed in the pictures.

### **Is this conduct allowed in the locker room?**

**NO.** It is not appropriate for anyone to be taking pictures in the locker room or in any other area designated as a place for changing clothes. The athletes taking selfies may accidentally take a picture of a teammate not fully clothed. They may also take a picture of someone who does not want to be photographed and unknowingly pass that photo along to others. The only exception to this policy is when the Organization approves media and championship celebrations and all requirements have been met.

**RETURN TO POLICY**

## ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SCENARIOS

Olivia is a 17-year-old Minor Athlete on a Rowing team. Olivia sends a text to her coach, Heather, to see what time practice starts tomorrow.

### How should Heather respond?

Heather should reply and copy Olivia's parent or guardian, another adult family member, or another Adult Participant on the text. This will ensure she follows the Electronic Communications Policy.

### If Olivia called Heather, would it be okay for Heather to answer the call?

**YES.** Heather can answer a call from a Minor Athlete, as the athlete could be calling because of an emergency. Heather should answer the call and keep the conversation short and professional. If she is with another Adult Participant, she could also put the call on speaker when she answers. If they decide the call is not an emergency, Heather should end the phone call appropriately or find someone to join the call. Heather could also send a text or email to Olivia with an assistant coach or Olivia's parent or guardian included.

If it is an emergency, Heather should document the phone call according to her Organization's policies and emergency protocols.

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Haley is a coach for a US Soccer State Association. She invites her team to use a team communication app for all updates, announcements, and questions. She invites all parents to be a part of the team group so they can also see the communication.

### Is this app considered open and transparent?

**YES.** This form of communication is open and transparent if Haley only posts to the team group channel that includes another Adult Participant or each of the Minor Athletes' parents or guardians. Haley must not communicate one-on-one with Minor Athletes through this app without copying another Adult Participant, the Minor Athlete's parent or guardian, or another adult family member.

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Jason is a staff member of a Local Swimming Committee. He receives an email from an athlete asking if they can try out for the high-performance team. Jason is unaware of the age of the athlete. He responds without copying another Adult Participant, parent or guardian, or an adult family member.

### Is this acceptable under the Electronic Communication Policy?

**NO,** if the Athlete is a Minor Athlete, it is a violation of the policy. Jason should find out the athlete's age before responding. If Jason is unable to determine the athlete's age, he should use caution and copy another Adult Participant on his response.

**RETURN TO POLICY**

## TRANSPORTATION SCENARIOS

Leslie is a US Tennis Association coach for Ann and Donna, both 13-year-old Minor Athletes. Leslie frequently picks up Ann and Donna from school to take them to training sessions. Their parents work full-time jobs, and the nearest tennis court is across town.

### Does this arrangement follow the Transportation policy?

**YES.** Leslie is with at least two minors who are at least 8 years of age. This arrangement is acceptable under the Transportation Policy.

Last week, Donna stayed home sick from school. Leslie asked Ann's guardian, Ron, if she could pick up Ann for her training session alone.

### Does this arrangement follow the Transportation Policy?

**NO.** Donna must be with another Adult Participant or at least two minors who are 8 years of age or older. Donna may also receive written consent from Ron to drive Ann one-on-one, but verbal consent would not be acceptable in this instance.

April, a staff member for her local ski club and a parent of one of the club's athletes, is part of a carpool with three other parents. She does not have written consent to travel with the other Minor Athlete. However, her own child, a Minor Athlete, is always in the car when she has another Minor Athlete in the car. Additionally, parents planned this carpool, not the LAO.

### Is April in compliance with the Transportation Policy?

**YES.** April is never one-on-one with an unrelated Minor Athlete. She does not need to have written consent for the carpool travel. If something occurred that would cause her to be one-on-one with the unrelated Minor Athlete, she would need to get written consent before traveling with that minor because of her role as an LAO staff member.

Andy has known and coached Ben, a 10-year-old Minor Athlete, for years. This year, Ben's parents mention to Andy that both of their work schedules would prevent them from getting Ben to his Wheelchair Basketball training sessions on time. Andy offers to drive Ben to the training sessions. Ben's parents agree and sign a written consent form for this arrangement.

### Is Andy following the Transportation Policy?

**YES.** With advance, written consent from Ben's parents, Andy can transport Ben one-on-one during In-Program travel. Andy should be sure to get written consent every year.

Tammy, a USA Taekwondo head coach, helped arrange travel to take his team to the national tournament. The team consists of 16 and 17-year-olds. Tammy collected written consent forms from all the parents and guardians of the Minor Athletes traveling on the bus.

**Is Tammy following the Transportation Policy?**

**YES.** Tammy arranged the travel and obtained prior consent as required by the policy.

**RETURN TO POLICY**

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## **LODGING AND RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENTS SCENARIOS**

A team of 12 Minor Athletes, two coaches, and two parent chaperones will be traveling out of town for a USA Rugby training camp. The State Rugby Organization sanctioned all travel and lodging. The entire team is staying on the third floor of a local hotel near where the tournament is taking place. The Minor Athletes will share rooms (four to a room) and each adult will have their own room.

**Are the two parents who came on the trip now considered Adult Participants and required to complete the Center’s training requirements?**

**YES.** The parents are traveling overnight with the LAO. They are assumed to have Authority over the Minor Athletes and now qualify as Adult Participants. Any Adult Participant who travels overnight with Minor Athletes, except for adult athletes, must complete the Center’s training requirements.

**Can the coach perform room checks each night to confirm the Minor Athletes are in their room by their designated curfew?**

**YES.** A coach can perform room checks, BUT at least two adults must be present.

**For this lodging arrangement, are there any consent forms needed?**

**YES.** Since the LAO made this arrangement, there are consent forms needed. The LAO must have written consent at least annually for all lodging sanctioned by the Organization from all parents of Minor Athletes. Adult Participants traveling on the trip need to agree to and sign the organization’s lodging policy annually.

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Pam is a 17-year-old Minor Athlete. She is traveling with her team out of state for an archery state championship this weekend. The archery club made all arrangements for lodging. Angela, a 20-year-old athlete and an Adult Participant on Pam’s team, will be sharing a room during the tournament with Pam. The club obtained written consent for this lodging arrangement before departure for the event. Angela signed off on the Organization’s lodging policy at the beginning of the season when she renewed her membership.

**Is this lodging arrangement acceptable under the Lodging Policy?**

**YES.** Angela meets the Close-in-Age Exception and signed the NGB’s lodging policy. The NGB also obtained consent prior to the lodging arrangement. All policy requirements were met for Pam and Angela to share a hotel room.

Kevin is a staff member of a USA Softball local association. He volunteered to take his son and four of his son's teammates to an event out of state because the teammates' parents could not travel to the event. Kevin found a shared lodging arrangement near the event with three bedrooms and three bathrooms. Kevin and his son will share one room and the four other Minor Athletes will share the other two rooms.

**Is this lodging arrangement allowed under the policy?**

**YES.** Shared lodging arrangements may be allowed under the policy if no Adult Participant is sleeping in the same room as a Minor Athlete absent any exceptions. Remember that all in-program contact at the lodging site must be observable and interruptible.

**Is Kevin considered an Adult Participant who needs to complete the Center's training requirements?**

**YES.** Kevin is an LAO staff member. He must take the training because of that role. If Kevin was not an LAO staff member, he would not need to take the SafeSport® Trained Core because he would not be an Adult Participant from this situation alone.

**For this lodging arrangement are there any consent forms that need to be signed?**

**YES.** Kevin must get written consent for all Minor Athletes because this lodging arrangement is In-Program.

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Meredith is a Minor Athlete with USA Weightlifting. Jim, Meredith's parent, volunteered to take Meredith and three other Minor Athletes to a USA Weightlifting event out of state because the teammates' parents could not travel to the event. Jim found a shared lodging arrangement near the event. He had his own room while Meredith and her teammates shared the other rooms.

**Is Jim considered an Adult Participant who needs to complete the Center's training requirements because he is a parent who will be traveling with other Minor Athletes?**

**NO.** Jim would not be an Adult Participant due to this event alone because, as a parent, he is working with other parents to arrange travel. If Jim had other roles or met the definition of Adult Participant, then he would need to complete the Center's training requirements. Being a parent who arranges travel with other parents or traveling to a sanctioned event with his child and his child's teammates does not qualify him as an Adult Participant.

**If Jim trains Meredith and her teammates as their coach, what steps need to be taken for this arrangement to be acceptable under the Lodging policy?**

If Jim is a coach for the Minor Athletes, he will first need to complete the Center's training requirements because he is an Adult Participant who has Regular Contact with the minor athletes. Jim must also make sure all interactions with the Minor Athletes during the trip are observable and interruptible since the travel is In-Program.



A USA Judo club planned a team retreat for Stanley, the head coach, and his athletes at a sleepaway camp out of town. The cabin that the team will be staying at is an open space with bunkbeds and one shared bathroom. The team is comprised of athletes aged 16 to 21.

### **Is this lodging arrangement acceptable under the Lodging Policy?**

**NO.** Because of the age range of the athletes, not everyone will meet the Close-in-Age Exception. The lodging arrangement would not be acceptable. Stanley would need to have a separate cabin for athletes who do not meet the Close-in-Age Exception. He must also have parent or guardian consent in advance for any lodging arrangement where a Minor Athlete shares a cabin with an Adult Participant who meets the Close-In-Age Exception.

### **Can Stanley stay in the cabin with the team?**

**NO.** Stanley cannot sleep in the same room as Minor Athletes. If there was a separate bedroom in the cabin, Stanley could stay in the separate bedroom.

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Toby is a USA Climbing Coach. He offered to let Oscar, a Minor Athlete, stay at his home over the summer to ensure that Oscar can attend every team training camp held at the training facility near Toby's house. Oscar will have his own car to use and will be staying in a garage apartment separate from Toby's house.

### **Is this acceptable under the Lodging Policy?**

**YES.** Oscar will be staying in a separate room from Toby, so this is not a violation of the Lodging Policy. Remember this arrangement is In-Program Contact. Toby must still follow the Education and Training Policy and the Required Prevention Policies within the MAAPP.

### **Does Toby need to get written consent from Oscar's parent or guardian for this arrangement?**

**YES.** Written consent is required for all In-Program lodging. Oscar's parents should also take training on preventing and reporting child abuse due to the high-risk nature of billeting and long-term housing arrangements.

**RETURN TO POLICY**

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