

# United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee Policy



**Policy Name:** USOPC Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies

**Publication Date:** 1/1/2025

**Policy Owner:** SVP, Chief of Security & Athlete Services

**Applies to:** BOD, USOPC Staff, and Others (as below)

**Purpose:** To establish clear requirements for interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes.

**Policy Statement:** The USOPC strives to create a safe culture of sport by promoting healthy environments free of misconduct and abuse. The USOPC recognizes that youth-adult relationships can be healthy and valuable for development. Policies regarding one-on-one interactions protect children while allowing for these beneficial relationships. As child sexual abuse is often perpetrated in isolated, one-on-one situations, it is critical that the USOPC limit such interactions between youth and adults and implement programs that reduce the risk of sexual abuse.

Federal legislation and the U.S. Center for SafeSport (the Center) both promulgate rules, policies, and procedures to protect and govern the wellbeing of athletes and this policy reinforces and builds on those principles by providing specific application for the USOPC.

## Section 1. Definitions

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

- A. An employee or board member of the USOPC;
- B. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of the USOPC;
- C. Authorized, approved, or appointed by the USOPC to have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes; or
- D. Otherwise deemed a Participant in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#), and further outlined in the [USOPC Participant & Training Model](#) within that policy.

**Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant:** An Adult Participant who assists an athlete requiring help with activities of daily living (ADL) and preparation for athletic participation. This support can be provided by a guide for blind or visually impaired athletes or can include assistance with transfer, dressing, showering, medication administration, and toileting. Personal Care Assistants are different for every athlete and should be individualized to fit their specific needs. When assisting a Minor Athlete, Adult Participant PCAs must be authorized by the athlete's parent/guardian. PCAs must have Regular Contact with Minor Athlete(s) other than the Minor Athlete for whom they provide care, or the PCA must be hired by the USOPC to be considered an Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant and subject to this policy.

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

**Authority:** When one person's position over another person is such that, based on the totality of the circumstances, they have the power or right to direct, control, give orders to, or make decisions for that person, or where a Power Imbalance exists as defined in the U.S. Center for SafeSport's SafeSport Code for the Olympic and Paralympic Movement (the Code).

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

**Close-in-Age Exception:** An exception applicable to certain sections of this policy when an Adult Participant does not have authority over a Minor Athlete and is not more than four years older (determined by birth date) than the Minor Athlete (e.g., a 19-year-old and a 16-year-old).

*Note: this exception only applies within this policy, and not regarding conduct defined in the Code (and adopted as Prohibited Conduct in the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy).*

**Delegation Event:** The Olympic Games, the Olympic Winter Games, the Paralympic Games, the Paralympic Winter Games, the Pan American Games, and the Parapan American Games, individually or collectively as applicable.

**Dual Relationships:** An exception applicable to certain sections of this policy when an Adult Participant has a dual role or relationship with a Minor Athlete outside of the sport program, such as a coach of a Minor Athlete who is also that Minor Athlete's aunt or uncle, and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent at least annually authorizing the exception.

**Electronic Communications:** Refers to any and all communications taking place electronically, which includes, but is not limited to, phone calls, videoconferencing, video coaching, texting, email, and social media interactions to include direct messages.

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

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

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

**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

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fully under the jurisdiction of the USOPC, an NGB, or LAO. This also includes any minor who participates or participated in a non-athlete role partially or fully under the jurisdiction of the USOPC (i.e., officials, coaches, volunteers).

**National Governing Body (NGB):** a U.S. Olympic National Governing Body or Pan American Sport Organization recognized by the USOPC pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. §§ 220501, et seq.

**NOC/NPC Events:** Includes the Youth Olympic Games, World Beach Games, Youth Parapan American Games, Junior Pan American Games, and other international sporting events as designated by the USOPC<sup>1</sup>.

**Observable and Interruptible:** The interaction must be easily seen by another person (adult or minor) and/or easily stopped by another person (adult or minor) if necessary (i.e., another adult or minor is in a position to observe the duration of the interaction).

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

**Regular Contact:** Substantive interactions between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete(s) during a 12-month period that include direct and active engagement where the duration and/or frequency allows for the opportunity for relationship and rapport building.

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

**USOPC:** The United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee.

## Section 2. Application

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The USOPC Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) apply to all Adult Participants of the USOPC when interacting with Minor Athletes.

## Section 3. One-on-One Interactions

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### 3.1 Observable and Interruptible

- A. All one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be observable and interruptible, except in emergency circumstances, or with a documented exception in section 3.2 below.

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this policy, other international sporting events will also include international events where USOPC Internally Managed Sports send a team or individual to compete.

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## 3.2 Exceptions

The following exceptions are applicable within all Required Prevention Policies unless otherwise noted. Other than an emergency, there are no exceptions for Section 6: Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities and Manual Therapy.

### A. Close-in-Age Exception

The purpose of this exception is to allow for continued relationships among athletes on the same team. The exception allows for one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete if:

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

*Note: This exception is different than the close-in-age exception in the [SafeSport Code](#) pertaining to misconduct.*

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

This exception exists for Adult Participants who also assist an athlete with activities of daily living and preparation for athletic participation. This exception allows for one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete if the following requirements are met:

1. The Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to the USOPC for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
2. The Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Training and Education requirements in Section 4.2 of the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#); and
3. The Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the [USOPC Background Check Policy and Procedures](#).

### C. Exceptions for Dual Relationships

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

### D. Emergency Exception

This exception applies to all Required Prevention Policies for situations where an Adult Participant must violate requirement(s) of the MAAPP due to an emergency. Adult Participants must carefully consider whether specific circumstances meet the threshold of "emergency." Adult Participants should document emergency situations and notify the Office of Athlete Safety at [athlete.safety@usopc.org](mailto:athlete.safety@usopc.org).

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

## Section 4. Meetings

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### 4.1 Observable and Interruptible

- A. Adult Participants must ensure that all In-Program meetings with Minor Athlete(s) are observable and interruptible, unless an exception exists in Section 3.2 above.

### 4.2 Meetings with Licensed Mental Health Care Professionals and Health Care Providers

- A. If a licensed mental health care professional, licensed health care provider, or a student or fellow under the supervision of a licensed mental health care professional or licensed health care provider, meets one-on-one with a Minor Athlete at a Delegation Event, an NOC/NPC Event, a sanctioned event, or a facility, for which the USOPC has Partial or Full Jurisdiction, the meeting must be observable and interruptible except:
  - 1. If the door remains unlocked; and
  - 2. Another adult is present at the facility and notified that a meeting is occurring, although the Minor Athlete's identity need not be disclosed; and
  - 3. The USOPC is notified that the mental health care professional, clinical student or fellow, or health care provider will be meeting with a Minor Athlete, although the Minor Athlete's identity needs not be disclosed; and
  - 4. The mental health care professional, clinical student or fellow, or health care provider obtains consent consistent with applicable laws and ethical standards, which can be withdrawn at any time.
- B. Any meeting that requires Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities and Manual Therapy must follow the Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities requirements in Section 6 of this policy.
- C. Licensed mental health care professionals and licensed health care providers who are USOPC employees, clinical students or fellows with the USOPC, USOPC independent contractors, or USOPC volunteers must abide by the requirements of this Section 4.2, as well as any additional requirements set forth by the applicable NGB, when meeting with Minor Athlete(s) at NGB facilities or while traveling with NGB teams for events or competitions.

## Section 5. Individual Training Sessions

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### 5.1 Observable and Interruptible

- A. Observable and Interruptible  
Adult Participants must ensure all In-Program individual training sessions with a Minor Athlete are observable and interruptible unless an exception exists.
- B. Consent  
The Adult Participant providing the individual training session must receive advance, written

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consent from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian at least annually, which can be withdrawn at any time; and

### C. Parent Observation

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

## Section 6. Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities and Manual Therapy

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

### 6.1 Examples of Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities and Manual Therapy

- A. For the purposes of this section, therapeutic and recovery modalities are physical agents that produce a specific therapeutic or recovery response. Examples include first aid, taping, heat (superficial and deep), cold, sound, electricity, and mechanical forces and light. Treatments administered under this category would include, but are not limited to, heat packs, cryotherapy, laser, ultrasound, electrical stimulation, pneumatic compression, dry needling, and extra-corporeal shockwave therapy.
- B. For the purposes of this section, manual therapy techniques are skilled hand movements and skilled passive movements of joints and soft tissue and are intended to improve tissue extensibility; increase range of motion; induce relaxation; mobilize or manipulate soft tissue and joints; modulate pain; and reduce soft tissue swelling, inflammation, or restriction. Treatments administered under this category, would include, but are not limited to, massage, myofascial release, osteopathic manual therapy, cupping, manual traction, manual lymphatic drainage, passive range of motion, and instrument assisted soft tissue therapy.

### 6.2 Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities and Manual Therapy Requirements

- A. All In-Program therapeutic and recovery modalities and manual therapy of a Minor Athlete must:
  - 1. Be observable and interruptible; and
  - 2. Have another Adult Participant physically present for the therapeutic and recovery modalities and manual therapy; and
  - 3. Have documented consent as required in Section 6.3 below; and
  - 4. Be performed with the Minor Athlete fully or partially clothed, ensuring that the breasts, buttocks, groin, and genitals are always covered; and
  - 5. Allow parents/guardians in the room as an observer, except for competition or training venues that limit credentialing.
- B. When possible, techniques must be used to reduce physical touch of Minor Athletes.

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- C. Only licensed or otherwise certified<sup>2</sup> providers can administer therapeutic and recovery modalities and manual therapy to Minor Athletes.
- D. Coaches, regardless of whether they are licensed or certified providers, cannot provide therapeutic and recovery modalities and manual therapy to Minor Athletes.
- E. Athletic taping and minor first-aid such as blister management, which do not require credentialing under the [USOPC's Sports Medicine Provider Credentialing Policy](#), are permitted, and can be administered to Minor Athletes, as long as they follow the criteria in Section A above. Coaches are only permitted to apply athletic tape to the extremities of Minor Athletes, such as the hands, wrists, ankles, and feet, and must avoid taping areas in close proximity to intimate areas.
- F. USOPC Staff may assist Paralympic Minor Athletes who are not able to independently put on or adjust settings on recovery modalities such as NormaTec™ and Gameready™ sleeves, as long as they follow the criteria in Section A above.

### 6.3 Consent

- A. Providers of therapeutic and recovery modalities and manual therapy, or the USOPC, when applicable, must obtain consent at least annually from Minor Athletes' parents/guardians before providing any therapeutic and recovery modalities and manual therapy.
- B. Minor Athletes or their parents/guardians can withdraw consent at any time.
- C. The provider must narrate the steps in the therapeutic and recovery modalities and manual therapy before taking them, seeking assent of the Minor Athlete throughout the process.

## Section 7. Locker Rooms Changing Areas

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### 7.1 Observable and Interruptible

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

### 7.2 Conduct in Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces

- A. No Adult Participant or Minor Athlete can use the photographic or recording capabilities of any device in locker rooms, changing areas, or any other area designated as a place for changing clothes or undressing.
- B. Adult Participants must not remove their clothes or behave in a manner that intentionally or recklessly exposes their breasts, buttocks, groins, or genitals to a Minor Athlete.
- C. Adult Participants must not shower with Minor Athletes unless:

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<sup>2</sup> As required by the state where the provider is located, and in accordance with the USOPC's requirements for providers as outlined in the [USOPC's Sports Medicine Provider Credentialing Policy](#).

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1. The Adult Participant meets the Close-in-Age Exception; or
  2. The shower is part of a pre- or post-activity rinse while wearing swimwear.
- D. Parents/guardians may request in writing that their Minor Athlete(s) not change or shower with Adult Participant(s) during In-Program Contact under any circumstances, including those listed in Section 7.2(C). The USOPC and the Adult Participant(s) must abide by this request.

### 7.3 Media and Championship Celebrations in Locker Rooms

- A. The USOPC may permit recording or photography in locker rooms for the purpose of highlighting a sport or athletic accomplishment if:
1. Parent/legal guardian consent has been obtained; and
  2. The USOPC staff responsible for organizing the event approves the specific instance of recording or photography; and
  3. Two or more Adult Participants are present; and
  4. Everyone is fully clothed.

### 7.4 Personal Care Assistants

- A. Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants are permitted to be with and assist Minor Athlete(s) in locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces where other Minor Athletes are present, if they meet the requirements in Section 3.2 above.

### 7.5 Availability and Monitoring of Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces

- A. The USOPC must provide a private or semi-private place for Minor Athletes that need to change clothes or undress at sanctioned events or facilities for which the USOPC has Partial or Full Jurisdiction.
- B. The USOPC must monitor the use of locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces to ensure compliance with these policies at sanctioned events or facilities for which the USOPC has Partial or Full Jurisdiction.

## Section 8. Electronic Communications

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### 8.1 Open and Transparent

- A. All one-on-one electronic communications between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be Open and Transparent, unless an exception exists.



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- B. "Open and Transparent" means that the Adult Participant copies or includes the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian, another adult family member of the Minor Athlete, or another Adult Participant on every communication.
  - 1. If a Minor Athlete communicates with the Adult Participant first, the Adult Participant must follow this policy if the Adult Participant responds.
- C. Only platforms that allow for Open and Transparent communication may be used to communicate with Minor Athletes.

### 8.2 Team Communication

- A. When an Adult Participant communicates electronically to the entire team or any number of Minor Athletes on the team, the Adult Participant must copy or include another Adult Participant, the Minor Athletes' parents/guardians, or another adult family member of the Minor Athletes.

### 8.3 Virtual Meetings with Licensed Mental Health Care Professionals and Health Care Providers<sup>3</sup>

- A. One-on-one virtual treatment meetings including teleconferences, videoconferences, telephonic, and other forms of "telemedicine" is permissible under this policy if:
  - 1. Another Adult Participant or provider is notified that a meeting is occurring, although the Minor Athlete's identity needs not be disclosed; and
  - 2. The USOPC is notified that the mental health care professional, clinical student or fellow, or health care provider will be meeting with a Minor Athlete, although the Minor Athlete's identity need not be disclosed; and
  - 3. The mental health care professional, clinical student or fellow, or health care provider obtains consent consistent with applicable laws and ethical standards, which can be withdrawn at any time.

### 8.4 Electronic Communications with the Team USA Athlete Ombuds

- A. When a Minor Athlete seeks confidential advice or assistance from the Team USA Athlete Ombuds, the Athlete Ombuds, or its staff, may have initial one-on-one electronic communications with the Minor Athlete in order to determine how to best make subsequent communications Open and Transparent without compromising confidentiality.
- B. Following the initial contact, all communication must adhere to the Electronic Communications policy.

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<sup>3</sup> This Section 8.3 does not apply to providers on the USOPC healthcare provider directories and any future USOPC directory members. Individuals listed on the various USOPC healthcare provider directories are a resource provided by the USOPC. While not considered USOPC Participants, directory members are background checked and required to take SafeSport training. Directory members will obtain consent and conduct treatment in accordance with applicable laws and ethical standards.

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- C. Every effort must be made to comply with the Electronic Communications policy. For instance, if the initial communication is made by email, the Ombud's response must copy another Adult Participant, parent/guardian, or adult family member of the Minor Athlete when responding.

### 8.5 Content

- A. All electronic communication originating from an Adult Participant(s) to a Minor Athlete(s) must be professional in nature unless an exception in Section 3.2 exists.

### 8.6 Requests to Discontinue

- A. Parents/guardians may request in writing that the USOPC or an Adult Participant subject to this policy not contact their Minor Athlete through any form of Electronic Communication. The USOPC and the Adult Participant must abide by any request to discontinue, absent emergency circumstances.

## Section 9. Transportation

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### 9.1 Transporting Minors

- A. **Observable and Interruptible**  
Adult Participants must ensure that all In-Program Contact during Transportation is Observable and Interruptible, unless an exception exists or:
  1. The Adult Participant has advanced, written consent to transport the Minor Athlete one-on-one, obtained at least annually from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.
  2. The Adult Participant is accompanied by another Adult Participant or at least two minors who are at least 8 years of age.
- B. **Additional Requirements for Transportation Authorized or Funded by the USOPC**
  1. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian is required for all transportation sanctioned by the USOPC at least annually.
  2. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.

### 9.2 Recommendation for Shared or Carpool Travel Arrangement

- A. The USOPC encourages parents/guardians to pick up their Minor Athlete first and drop off their Minor Athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement.

## Section 10. Lodging and Residential Environments

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### 10.1 Observable and Interruptible

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- A. All In-Program Contact during lodging must be observable and interruptible unless an exception exists.
  - 1. Lodging arrangements covered under this policy include, but are not limited to, hotel stays, rental (i.e., Airbnb, VRBO, HomeToGo, etc.), and long-term Residential Environments, including lodging at training sites and Billeting.

### 10.2 Hotel Rooms and Other Sleeping Arrangements

- A. An Adult Participant cannot share a hotel room or otherwise sleep in the same room with a Minor Athlete(s), unless an exception exists, **and** the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided the USOPC or Adult Participant with advanced, written consent for each specific lodging arrangement.
- B. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian must be obtained for all In-Program lodging at least annually.
- C. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.
- D. The USOPC also requires written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian for all shared housing arrangements where Minor Athletes are sharing a housing arrangement with Adult Participants, even if the Minor Athlete has their own separate bedroom (e.g. Airbnb housing arrangements). An Adult Participant shall not share a sleeping arrangement (e.g. bedroom) with a Minor Athlete unless a Close-In-Age exception is documented.

### 10.3 Monitoring or Room Checks During In-Program Travel

- A. If the USOPC or team performs room checks during In-Program lodging, the requirements for one-on-one interactions outlined in Section 3 above must be followed and at least two adults must be present for the room checks.

### 10.4 Additional Requirements for Lodging Authorized or Funded by the USOPC

- A. Adult Participants that travel overnight with Minor Athlete(s) are assumed to have Regular Contact and/or Authority over Minor Athlete(s) and thus must comply with the Training and Education requirements in Section 4.2 of the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).

### 10.5 Limited Exceptions for Delegation Events and NOC/NPC Events

- A. Due to the unique nature of Delegation Events and NOC/NPC Events, to include the allotment of housing by the Organizing Committee to the USOPC for those events, in rare circumstances, the USOPC will make an exception to the lodging requirements in this Section 10 to allow a Minor Athlete to room with another adult athlete who is more than four years older than them.
- B. Any requests for this exception must:

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1. Be vetted through the USOPC's Office of Athlete Safety<sup>4</sup>; and require the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian is informed in writing regarding the rooming arrangement to include the names and ages of the adult athlete(s); and
2. Require written consent be obtained from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian, prior to the arrangement occurring; and
3. Obtain assent from the Minor Athlete, prior to the arrangement occurring.

### Section 11. NOC/NPC Events and Delegation Events

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#### 11.1 Interactions with athletes under 18 years of age from other NOCs or NPCs

- A. While participating at NOC/NPC Events and Delegation Events, Adult Participants are required to follow all of the proactive policies outlined in the sections above when interacting with athletes under 18 years of age from other nations.

### Section 12. Training and Education

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#### 12.1 Training Requirements

- A. Adult Participants required to complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport's SafeSport training courses are outlined in Section 4.2 of the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#) and the [USOPC Participant & Training Model](#) included in that policy.
- B. Guidelines for offering training to Minor Athletes and the parents/guardians of Minor Athletes is also outlined in Section 4.2 of the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).
- C. The USOPC highly recommends that parents/guardians complete training regarding child abuse prevention prior to providing consent for their Minor Athlete(s) in any of the above referenced Sections 3-10. The USOPC, on an annual basis, will offer this training as outlined in Section 4.2 of the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).

The U.S. Center for SafeSport makes resources available to parents regarding abuse prevention in sport, to include the Parent Toolkit, and free online training available at: <https://uscenterforsafesport.org/training-and-education/training-and-education-services/>.

### Section 13. Violations and Reporting

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#### 13.1 Violations

- A. Violations of this policy constitutes Prohibited Conduct as defined in Section 5 of the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#), and will be addressed in accordance with the response and resolution procedures outlined in that policy.

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<sup>4</sup> The USOPC Office of Athlete Safety will, in its discretion, put additional safety requirements in place to mitigate any risk associated with the rooming arrangement. For example, additional room checks may be required.

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## 13.2 Reporting

- A. Reporting requirements and guidelines for reporting violations of this policy are contained in Section 6 of the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#). Reports can be made online to the USOPC at [www.usopc.org/safe-sport](http://www.usopc.org/safe-sport).

## Appendix A. Organizational Requirements

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The USOPC must implement proactive policies designed to prevent abuse. These organizational requirements are described below.

### A. Organizational Requirements for Education & Training

1. The USOPC must track whether Adult Participants under the USOPC's jurisdiction complete the required training listed in Section 4.2 of the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy.
2. The USOPC must, on an annual basis, offer and, subject to parental consent, give training to Minor Athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
  - a. For training to Minor Athletes, the USOPC must track a description of the training and how the training was offered and provided to Minor Athletes.
  - b. The USOPC is not required to track individual course completions of Minor Athletes.
3. The USOPC must, on an annual basis, offer training to parents/guardians on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
  - a. For training to parents/guardians, the USOPC must track a description of the training and how the training was offered and provided to parents/guardians.
  - b. The USOPC is not required to track individual course completions of parents/guardians.

### B. Required Prevention Policies and Implementation

1. The USOPC must develop minor athlete abuse prevention policies to limit one-on-one interactions between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete. These policies must contain the mandatory components of the Center's model policies in Part III. These model policies cover:
  - a. Meetings
  - b. Individual Training Sessions
  - c. Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities and Manual Therapy
  - d. Locker Rooms and Changing Areas
  - e. Electronic Communications
  - f. Transportation
  - g. Lodging and Residential Environments

*Note: One-on-One Interactions has been removed as a standalone policy and incorporated into other prevention policies.*

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2. The policies must be approved by the Center as described in subsection (C) below. The policies may include the recommended components in Part III and the recommended policies in Part IV. Given the uniqueness of each sport, however, some recommended components or policies may not be feasible or appropriate. Such concerns should be addressed with the Center during the Policy Approval and Submission Process discussed below. The USOPC may choose to implement stricter standards than the model policies.
3. The USOPC must also require that its LAOs<sup>5</sup> implement these policies within each LAO.
4. The USOPC must implement these policies for all In-Program Contact.
  - a. At sanctioned events and facilities partially or fully under the USOPC's jurisdiction, the USOPC must take steps to ensure the policies are implemented and followed.
  - b. For In-Program Contact that occurs outside the USOPC's sanctioned event or facilities, implementing these policies means:
    - i. Communicating the policies to individuals under the USOPC's jurisdiction;
    - ii. Establishing a reporting mechanism for violations of the policies;
    - iii. Investigating and enforcing violations of the policies.
5. The USOPC must have a reporting mechanism to accept reports that an Adult Participant is violating the USOPC's Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies. The USOPC must appropriately investigate and resolve any reports received, unless the violation is reported to the Center, and it exercises jurisdiction over the report. This requirement is in addition to requirements to report abuse under the SafeSport Code.

### C. Policy Approval and Submission Process

1. The USOPC may adopt the mandatory minimum requirements of the MAAPP as-is or adapt it to fit their needs. Regardless, the USOPC must submit their policies to the Center at [compliance@safesport.org](mailto:compliance@safesport.org) for review and approval by April 1, 2024. The Center will approve, approve with modifications, or deny the policies. If the Center denies the proposed policy, the mandatory components of Part III of the Center's Model MAAPP become the default policy until the Center approves the policy.
2. The USOPC must require its LAOs<sup>5</sup> to incorporate the mandatory components of Part III. The USOPC may require that their LAOs implement the USOPC's policies, which may be more stringent than the policies in Part III.
3. Any changes made to the USOPC MAAPP after the policy is approved must be submitted to the Center for approval. The previously approved MAAPP will remain in effect until written approval is provided to the USOPC from the Center.

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<sup>5</sup> The USOPC does not currently have any LAOs.

# United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee Policy

## Policy History

Publication Type	Policy Approver	Enabling Action	Publication Date	Next Review	Revision Summary
Initial Publication	Board of Directors	Board Vote: September 23, 2021	January 1, 2022	September 2022	N/A – initial publication
Annual Review	Board of Directors	Board Vote: December 12, 2024	January 1, 2025	December 2025	Updated throughout to comply with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's 2025 MAAPP.  Updates to policy statement, section 1, reordering of sections 3-5 to include separation of Meetings and Training Sessions, section 9, section 10, section 11, and appendix.