



USA
WRESTLING

MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICIES

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INTRODUCTION

What is the MAAPP?

The Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies the (“MAAPP”) is a collection of proactive prevention and training policies for USA Wrestling. It has three components:

1. An Education & Training Policy that requires training for certain Adult Participants within USA Wrestling;
2. USA Wrestling, State Affiliate and Chartered Club requirements; and
3. Required Prevention Policies, focused on limiting one-on-one interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes.

How Does Anyone Know if there is Compliance with the MAAPP?

Federal law requires the U.S. Center for SafeSport (the “Center”) conduct regular and random audits of USA Wrestling to ensure compliance with these policies. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(2)(E). More specific organizational compliance requirements can be found in Part II.

Additionally, it is the responsibility of USA Wrestling, its State Affiliates and Chartered Clubs (collectively, “USA Wrestling Programs”), and Adult Participants to comply with the MAAPP. The aforementioned USA Wrestling Programs can act in their respective programs for violations of the MAAPP by Adult Participants. Adult Participants also have an independent responsibility to comply with these MAAPP provisions. Violations of these provisions can result in sanctions under the Center’s Code for the Olympic and Paralympic Movement (the “SafeSport Code”).

Is the MAAPP Different from the SafeSport Code?

Yes. The [SafeSport Code](#) works alongside the MAAPP to prevent abuse. The MAAPP includes proactive prevention policies for USA Wrestling Programs and individuals, while the SafeSport Code contains misconduct policies for individuals. However, violations of the MAAPP can violate the SafeSport Code, and violators can be sanctioned.

SCOPE

The MAAPP Applies to “In-Program Contact” Within USA Wrestling

The MAAPP is required for USA Wrestling, its State Affiliates and Chartered Clubs (collectively, “USA Wrestling Programs”).

Some policies impose requirements on USA Wrestling Programs, sanctioned events and facilities partially or fully under the USA Wrestling’s jurisdiction. For example, USA Wrestling Programs must monitor locker rooms at their facilities and sanctioned events. Other policies impose certain requirements on Adult Participants under the jurisdiction of a USA Wrestling Program when the Adult Participant is having “In-Program Contact.” For example, Adult Participants cannot have one-on-one electronic communications with Minor Athletes that they coach.

Who is a Minor Athlete?

A **Minor Athlete** is 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 a USA Wrestling Program.

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

Who is an Adult Participant?

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

1. A member or license holder of a USA Wrestling Program;
2. An employee or board member of a USA Wrestling Program;
3. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of a USA Wrestling Program;
4. Authorized, approved, or appointed by a USA Wrestling Program to have Regular Contact with or authority over Minor Athletes.¹

¹ This may include volunteers, medical staff, trainers, chaperones, monitors, contract personnel, bus/van drivers, officials, adult athletes, staff, board members, and any other individual who meets the Adult Participant definition.

What is In-Program Contact?

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

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

Does the MAAPP Have Any Exceptions?

Yes. The MAAPP was written with certain appropriate exceptions in mind. Exceptions are addressed in each policy and include:

1. A Close-in-Age Exception

This exception applies to certain policies and allows for In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete if:

- a. The Adult Participant has no authority over the Minor Athlete; and
- b. The Adult Participant is not more than four years older than the Minor Athlete.

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

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

3. Exceptions for Dual Relationships

This exception applies to certain policies when the Adult Participant has a dual role or relationship with a Minor Athlete. The exception requires written consent of the Minor Athlete’s parent/guardian at least annually.

Many of the exceptions require parent/guardian consent. USA Wrestling recommends parents take training on child abuse prevention before providing consent under

these policies. The Center offers a free Parent Course at www.athletesafety.org. This course is also available in USA Wrestling's membership system located at www.usawmembership.com.

Am I required to take SafeSport Training?

Certain Adult Participants within USA Wrestling Programs who have (i) Regular Contact with Minor Athletes, (ii) authority over Minor Athletes, or (iii) are employees or board members of a USA Wrestling Program, are required to take training. Please see the matrix on page 8 for additional detail. The specific training requirements can be found in Part I. For the avoidance of doubt, if you have taken the SafeSport Core training and annual refreshers as required by USA Wrestling's Safe Sport Program Handbook, you have met the MAAPP training requirements.

PART I EDUCATION & TRAINING POLICY

A. Mandatory Child Abuse Prevention Training for Adult Participants

1. Adult Participants Required to Complete Training

- a. The following Adult Participants must complete the *SafeSport Trained Core* either through the Center's online training or the Center's approved, in-person training:
 - i. Adult Participants who have Regular Contact with any Amateur Athlete(s) who is a minor;
 - ii. Adult Participants who have authority over any Amateur Athlete(s) who is a minor;
 - iii. Adult Participants who are an employee or board member of a USA Wrestling Program.
- b. Adult Participants who are medical providers required to take training under Section (a) can take the Health Professionals Course in lieu of the *SafeSport Trained Core*.

2. Timing of Training

Adult Participants must complete this training:

- a. Before Regular Contact with an Amateur Athlete who is a minor begins; **and**
- b. Before becoming a member of USA Wrestling (as this is a requirement for membership).

3. Refresher Training

The above listed Adult Participants must complete SafeSport training during each USA Wrestling membership season (September 1-August 31). The training commences with SafeSport Trained Core, then refresher courses for the next three membership seasons, and then the process repeats.

Medical providers can take the Health Professionals Course in lieu of the *SafeSport Trained Core* and are required to take the refresher courses on an annual basis if they meet the criteria for A(1).

B. Minor Athlete Training Will Be Offered

1. USA Wrestling Programs on an annual basis, will offer and, subject to parental consent, give training to Minor Athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.

2. The Center offers youth courses, located at www.athletesafety.org, that meet this requirement.

C. Parent Training Will Be Offered

1. USA Wrestling Programs on an annual basis, will offer training to parents on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
2. The Center offers a parent course, located at www.athletesafety.org, that meets this requirement. This course is also available in USA Wrestling's membership system located at www.usawmembership.com.

D. Optional Training

1. Adult Participants serving in a volunteer capacity, who will not have Regular Contact with or Authority over Minor Athletes, should take the Center's brief Volunteer Course (or *SafeSport Trained Core*) before engaging or interacting with any Minor Athlete(s).
2. USA Wrestling Programs may provide training *in addition to* the *SafeSport Trained Core*. **Training other than the *SafeSport Trained Core* or Refresher does not satisfy this policy.**
3. Parents of Minor Athletes are provided free online access to the Center's parent course and are encouraged to take the training.

E. Exemptions and Accommodations

1. Exemptions from this Education & Training Policy may be made on a case-by-case basis for victims/survivors. Requests may be made directly to USA Wrestling at safesport@usawrestling.org.
2. USA Wrestling will work with individuals and USA Wrestling Programs on appropriate accommodations for persons with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency to satisfy these training requirements. USA Wrestling will and each USA Wrestling Program must provide reasonable accommodations and track any exemptions for individuals with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency.

The follow matrix is a list of those individuals who are required to obtain SafeSport Trained Core. If you have questions, please email safesport@usawrestling.org.

Adult Participant Type	Regular Contact with a Minor	Authority Over a Minor	SafeSport Trained Core
USA Wrestling Program Staff		x	Yes
USA Wrestling Program Board Members		x	Yes
USA Wrestling Coaches	x	x	Yes
USA Wrestling Officials	x	x	Yes
USA Wrestling Adult Athlete Members - regardless of Regular Contact or Authority			Yes
Other USA Wrestling Adult Members - regardless of Regular Contact or Authority			Yes
USA Wrestling Team Leaders		x	Yes
USA Wrestling Program Volunteers if Regular Contact and/or Authority*	x	x	Yes
USA Wrestling Program Volunteers if no Regular Contact or Authority			USCSS Volunteer Course or SafeSport Core Training RECOMMENDED
USA Wrestling Medical**	x		Yes
Credentialed Media - regardless of Regular Contact and/or Authority			Yes
Contractors/Vendors that have Regular Contact and/or Authority	x	x	Yes

*Each event may have a different assortment of event volunteers. That written, the following event volunteers will be deemed to have Regular Contact with and Authority over minors: director of event, lead event coordinator, venue/operations director, director of security, media director, locker room monitors, director of escorts and Minor Athlete escorts, bus drivers, and as such, must complete SafeSport Core Training.

**Medical includes the following: athletic trainers, masseur, chiropractors, dieticians, mental health care professionals, and medical doctors. USCSS' Health Professionals Course may substitute for the SafeSport Core Training.

PART II

USA WRESTLING REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATION & TRAINING AND PREVENTION POLICIES

All USA Wrestling Programs must implement proactive policies designed to prevent abuse. These requirements are described below.

A. USA Wrestling Requirements for Education & Training

1. USA Wrestling Programs must track whether Adult Participants under its jurisdiction complete the required training listed in Part I.
2. USA Wrestling 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, USA Wrestling must track a description of the training and how the training was offered and provided to Minor Athletes.
 - b. USA Wrestling is not required to track individual course completions of Minor Athletes.
3. USA Wrestling must, on an annual basis, offer training to parents on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.

B. Required Prevention Policies and Implementation

1. USA Wrestling Programs must develop minor athlete abuse prevention policies that contain the components of USA Wrestling's policies in Part III. These policies cover:
 - a. One-on-one interactions
 - b. Meetings and training sessions
 - c. Athletic training modalities, massages, and rubdowns
 - d. Locker rooms and changing areas
 - e. Electronic communications
 - f. Transportation
 - g. Lodging
2. If a USA Wrestling Program desires to alter a policy it must first obtain USA Wrestling written approval. To seek approval email: safesport@usawrestling.org. USA Wrestling went through a similar approval process with the Center. Such process is described on Appendix A.

3. USA Wrestling requires that all of its USA Wrestling Programs to implement these policies within each USA Wrestling Program.
4. USA Wrestling must implement these policies for all In-Program Contact.
 - a. At sanctioned events and facilities partially or fully under its jurisdiction, USA Wrestling must take steps to ensure the policies are implemented and followed.
 - b. For In-Program Contact that occurs outside a USA Wrestling sanctioned event or facilities, implementing these policies means:
 - i. Communicating the policies to individuals under its jurisdiction;
 - ii. Establishing a reporting mechanism for violations of the policies;
 - iii. Investigating and enforcing violations of the policies.
5. USA Wrestling must have a reporting mechanism to accept reports that an Adult Participant is violating USA Wrestling's minor athlete abuse prevention policies. USA Wrestling 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.

PART III

REQUIRED POLICIES FOR ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

USA Wrestling recognizes that youth-adult relationships can be healthy and valuable for development. Policies on one-on-one interactions protect children while allowing for these beneficial relationships. As child sexual abuse is often perpetrated in isolated, one-on-one situations, it is critical that USA Wrestling Programs limit such interactions between youth and adults and implement programs that reduce the risk of sexual abuse. All USA Wrestling Programs must adopt/follow these policies.

A. ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

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.
- b. The exceptions below may apply to specific policies, and if the exceptions apply, they are listed in the policy. These exceptions also apply to all one-on-one In-Program Contact not specifically addressed in other policies:
 - i. When a Dual Relationship exists; or
 - ii. When the Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
 - iii. If a Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant, and:
 - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to a USA Wrestling Program 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 Education & Training Policy; and
 - (3) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Wrestling's Background Screening Policy; or
 - iv. In other circumstances specifically addressed in this policy that allow for certain one-on-one interactions if USA Wrestling receives parent/ guardian consent.

USA Wrestling recommends that parents first complete training on abuse prevention to be informed about potential boundary violations and concerns before consenting to one-on-one interactions. The Center offers a free Parent Course at www.athletesafety.org. This course is also available in USA Wrestling's membership system located at www.usawmembership.com.

B. MEETINGS AND TRAINING SESSIONS

1. Observable and Interruptible

Adult Participants must follow the one-on-one interaction policy in all meetings and training sessions where Minor Athlete(s) are present.

2. Individual Training Sessions

a. One-on-one, In-Program, individual training sessions must be observable and interruptible except if:

- i. A Dual Relationship exists; or
- ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
- iii. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant, and:
 - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to a USA Wrestling Program 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 Education & Training Policy; and
 - (3) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Wrestling's Background Screening Policy.

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

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

USA Wrestling recommends that parents first complete training on abuse prevention to be informed about potential boundary violations and concerns before consenting to the individual training sessions. The Center offers a free Parent Course at www.athletesafety.org. This course is also available in USA Wrestling's membership system located at www.usawmembership.com.

3. Meetings with licensed mental health care professionals and health care providers (other than athletic trainers²)

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

² Athletic trainers who are covered under these policies must follow the "Athletic Training Modalities, Massages, and Rubdowns" policy.

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

C. ATHLETIC TRAINING MODALITIES, MESSAGES, AND RUBDOWNS

1. Athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown

All In-Program athletic training modalities, massages, or rubdowns of a Minor Athlete must:

- a. Be observable and interruptible; and
- b. Have another Adult Participant physically present for the athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown; and
- c. Have documented consent as explained in subsection (2) below; and
- d. Be performed with the Minor Athlete fully or partially clothed, ensuring that the breasts, buttocks, groin, and/or genitals are always covered; and
- e. Allow parents/guardians in the room as an observer, except for competition or training venues that limit credentialing.

2. Consent

- a. Providers of athletic training modalities, massages, and rubdowns or USA Wrestling or a USA Wrestling Program, when applicable, must obtain consent at least annually from Minor Athletes’ parents/guardians before providing any athletic training modalities, massages, or rubdowns.
- b. Minor Athletes or their parents/guardians can withdraw consent at any time.

USA Wrestling recommends that parents first complete training on abuse prevention to be informed about potential boundary violations and concerns before consenting to the athletic training modalities, massages, and rubdowns.

D. LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS

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, except if:

- a. A Dual Relationship exists; or
- b. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
- c. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant and:
 - i. the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to a USA Wrestling Program for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
 - ii. the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
 - iii. the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Wrestling's Background Screening Policy.

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 change clothes or behave in a manner that intentionally or recklessly exposes their breasts, buttocks, groins, and/or genitals to a Minor Athlete.
- c. Adult Participants must not shower with Minor Athletes unless:
 - i. The Adult Participant meets the Close-in-Age Exception; or
 - ii. The shower is part of a pre- or post-activity rinse while wearing swimwear.
- d. Parents/guardians may request in writing that their Minor Athlete(s) not change or shower with Adult Participant(s) during In-Program Contact. USA Wrestling Programs and the Adult Participant(s) must abide by this request.

3. Media and Championship Celebrations in Locker Rooms

USA Wrestling Programs may permit recording or photography in locker rooms for the purpose of highlighting a sport or athletic accomplishment if:

- i. Parent/legal guardian consent has been obtained; and
- ii. The USA Wrestling Program approves the specific instance of recording or photography; and
- iii. Two or more Adult Participants are present; and
- iv. Everyone is fully clothed.

4. Personal Care Assistants

Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants are permitted to be with and assist Minor Athlete(s) in locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces where other Minor Athletes are present, if they meet the requirements in subsection (1)(a)(iii) above.

5. Availability and Monitoring of Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces

- a. USA Wrestling Programs must provide a private or semi-private place for Minor Athletes that need to change clothes or undress at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under the USA Wrestling's Programs jurisdiction.
- b. USA Wrestling Programs must monitor the use of locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces to ensure compliance with these policies at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under the USA Wrestling's Programs jurisdiction.

E. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS³

1. Open and Transparent

- a. All one-on-one electronic communications between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be Open and Transparent except:
 - i. When a Dual Relationship exists; or
 - ii. When the Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
 - iii. If a Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant and:
 - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to a USA Wrestling Program 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 Education & Training Policy; and
 - (3) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Wrestling's Background Screening Policy.
- 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.
 - 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.

³ Electronic communications include, but are not limited to: phone calls, videoconferencing, video coaching, texting, and social media.

2. Team Communication

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

3. Content

All electronic communication originating from an Adult Participant(s) to a Minor Athlete(s) must be professional in nature unless an exception in (1)(a) exists.

4. Requests to Discontinue

Parents/guardians may request in writing that a USA Wrestling Program or an Adult Participant subject to this policy not contact their Minor Athlete through any form of electronic communication. The USA Wrestling Program and the Adult Participant must abide by any request to discontinue, absent emergency circumstances.

Recommended

5. Social Media Connections

It is recommended that Adult Participants, except those with a Dual Relationship or who meet the Close-in-Age Exception, not maintain private social media connections with Minor Athletes and should discontinue existing social media connections with Minor Athletes.

F. TRANSPORTATION

1. Transportation

a. An Adult Participant cannot transport a Minor Athlete one-on-one during In-Program travel, except if:

i. A Dual Relationship exists; or

ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or

iii. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant and:

(1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Wrestling 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 Education & Training Policy; and

(3) the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Wrestling's Background Screening Policy; or

- iv. The Adult Participant has advance, written consent to transport the Minor Athlete one-on-one obtained at least annually from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian.
- b. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.
- c. An Adult Participant meets the In-Program transportation requirements if the Adult Participant is accompanied by another Adult Participant or at least two minors.
- d. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian is required for all transportation sanctioned by USA Wrestling or a USA Wrestling Program at least annually.

USA Wrestling recommends that parents first complete training on abuse prevention to be informed about potential boundary violations and concerns before consenting to transportation. The Center offers a free Parent Course at www.athletesafety.org. This course is also available in USA Wrestling's membership system located at www.usawmembership.com.

G. LODGING

1. Hotel Rooms and Other Sleeping Arrangements

- a. All In-Program Contact at a hotel or lodging site between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be observable and interruptible, and an Adult Participant cannot share a hotel room or otherwise sleep in the same room with a Minor Athlete(s), except if:
 - i. A Dual Relationship Exists, and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided USA Wrestling Programs with advance, written consent for the lodging arrangement;
 - ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies, and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided USA Wrestling Programs with advance, written consent for the lodging arrangement; or
 - iii. The Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care Assistant, and:
 - (1) The Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided advance, written consent to the USA Wrestling Program for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete and for the lodging arrangement;
 - (2) The Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
 - (3) The Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Wrestling's Background Screening Policy.
- b. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian must be obtained for all In-Program lodging at least annually.

2. Monitoring or Room Checks During In-Program Travel
If a USA Wrestling Program or team performs room checks during In-Program lodging, the one-on-one interaction policy must be followed and at least two adults must be present for the room checks.
3. Additional Requirements for Lodging Authorized or Funded by USA Wrestling
 - a. Adult Participants traveling with USA Wrestling Programs must agree to and sign USA Wrestling's lodging policy at least annually.
 - b. Adult Participants that travel overnight with Minor Athlete(s) are assumed to have Authority over Minor Athlete(s) and thus must comply with the Center's Education & Training Policy.

USA Wrestling recommends that parents first complete training on abuse prevention to be informed about potential boundary violations and concerns before consenting to the lodging. The Center offers a free Parent Course at www.athletesafety.org. This course is also available in USA Wrestling's membership system located at www.usawmembership.com.

H. GIFTING

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

I. PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO

Photographs or videos of Minor Athletes must observe generally accepted standards of decency.

DEFINITIONS

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

- a. A member or license holder of USA Wrestling;
- b. An employee or board member of a USA Wrestling Program;
- c. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of a USA Wrestling Program;
- d. Authorized, approved, or appointed by a USA Wrestling Program to have Regular Contact with or Authority over Minor Athletes.⁴

Amateur Athlete: An athlete who meets the eligibility standards established by USA Wrestling for the sport of wrestling.

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

Center: The U.S. Center for SafeSport.

Close-in-Age Exception: An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant does not have Authority over a Minor Athlete *and* is not more than four years older than the Minor Athlete (e.g., a 19-year-old and a 16-year-old). Note: this exception *only* applies within the prevention policies and *not* regarding conduct defined in the SafeSport Code.

Dual Relationships: An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant has a dual role or relationship with a Minor Athlete and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent at least annually authorizing the exception.

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.

⁴ This may include volunteers, medical staff, trainers, chaperones, monitors, contract personnel, bus/van drivers, officials, adult athletes, staff, board members, and any other individual who meets the Adult Participant definition.

Local Affiliated Organization (LAO): A state, or local club or organization that is directly affiliated with USA Wrestling or that is affiliated with USA Wrestling by its direct affiliation with a regional or state affiliate of USA Wrestling.

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 USA Wrestling or a USA Wrestling Program.

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

Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant: An Adult Participant who assists a Minor 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 Minor Athletes or can include assistance with transfer, dressing, showering, medication administration, and toileting. Personal Care Assistants are different for every athlete and should be individualized to fit their specific needs. When assisting a Minor Athlete, Adult Participant PCAs must be authorized by the athlete's parent/guardian.

Regular Contact: Ongoing interactions during a 12-month period wherein an Adult Participant is in a role of direct and active engagement with any Minor Athlete(s).

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

USA Wrestling Program(s): A program of USA Wrestling, its State Affiliates and/or Chartered Clubs.

Appendix A
USA Wrestling's Policy Approval and Submission Process with the Center

1. USA Wrestling may adopt the Center's MAAPP as-is or adapt it to fit their needs. Regardless, USA Wrestling must submit its policies to the Center at compliance@safesport.org for review and approval by January 31, 2021. The Center will approve, approve with modifications, or deny the policies. If the Center denies the proposed policy, the mandatory components of the Center's MAAPP will become the default policies until the Center approves the policy.
2. USA Wrestling must require their LAOs to incorporate the mandatory components of the Center's MAAPP. USA Wrestling may require that their LAOs implement the USA Wrestling's policies, which may be more stringent than the Center's MAAPP.
3. USA Wrestling may, in its discretion, require its National Member Organizations (NMO) to implement these policies.
 - An NGB that chooses to require its NMOs to implement the Education & Training Policy must obtain advanced, written approval from the Center to expand the training access to additional persons. Requests must be submitted to ngbservices@safesport.org.
4. In the event USA Wrestling fails to develop its own policies, the mandatory components of the Center's MAAPP will serve as the default policy.