



Athlete Safety Procedures

Overview

The following are the procedures to be followed by Event Organizers in an effort to provide a competition environment that prioritizes participant safety. The information is reviewed and updated, if required, as needed. These Athlete Safety Procedures for USRowing Events must be followed for all USRowing owned and sanctioned regattas. These Athlete Safety Procedures for USRowing Events are required by the U.S. Center for SafeSport. The following requirements should be implemented during all rowing events, programs, activities, and/or competitions under the oversight of USRowing and USRowing Member Organizations:

EDUCATION & TRAINING: All Participants must adhere to the training requirements set forth in the USRowing Abuse Prevention and Response Policy. If an Adult Participant is required to be trained but has not done so, they may not participate in a role of Regular Contact or Authority at the event. Event Organizers should maintain a roster of Adult Participants for each owned or sanctioned event, to include their role and verification that they have each completed the necessary requirements.

Implementation:

- For regattas, athletes, coaches, and support staff are registered through RegattaCentral or other event registration platform. When using RegattaCentral, event organizers have full access to compliance reports to ensure proper training is completed. When not utilizing RegattaCentral, event organizers are to send a full list showing participating member organizations, individual athletes, coaches, and support staff first name, last name, and DOB. Organizers are to send this list to USRowing directly to confirm compliance at members@usrowing.org. This list should be sent to USRowing at least 3 days prior to the start of the event.
- Other participants, such as volunteers, vendors, timing, etc. should register with event organizers via event platform or other method.

Access to the online SafeSport training course is via the USRowing membership database. Instructions on how to access training can be found [here](#). If the Adult Participant is not a USRowing member they will be required to obtain a USRowing membership before the training is accessible.

- If an Adult Participant is required to be trained but has not done so in the previous 12 months, they may not participate in rowing events, programs, activities, and/or competitions under the oversight of USRowing.

COMMUNICATION OF THE MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICY (MAAPP): Prior to each event, through the registration process or some other form of communication, all registered participants must receive a copy of the USRowing Abuse Prevention and Response Policy, reporting protocols, including how to report a violation.

Implementation:

- Event Organizers must communicate to all event participants, that they are required to adhere to the USRowing [Abuse Prevention and Response Policy](#), the [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy](#), the [SafeSport Code](#), and [Reporting Protocols](#).
- If utilizing RegattaCentral platform, an automated email with this information is sent to registered athletes and coaches 24 hours prior to the start of the event. If not using RegattaCentral, this information must be sent manually prior to the start of the event – messaging templates provided below.
- Regardless of event platform, this information should be sent manually to other event participants either in the sign-up process or post registration. Other participants being, volunteers, LOC staff, media, vendors, etc.
- If a participant did not pre-register for the event, this information should be communicated either in day-of sign-up form or [acknowledgment](#) - messaging templates provided below.
- Event Organizers are also highly encouraged to post the MAAPP Communication and reporting protocols in published event information. There is access to the required MAAPP information on the USRowing website, [Safe Sport MAAPP Resources](#).

USROWING SAFEGUARDING DISCIPLINARY LIST AND JURISDICTIONAL HOLD LIST: Event organizers will be required to ensure that participants are not currently listed as suspended, banned, or on a Jurisdictional Hold. Anyone on the USRowing Safeguarding Disciplinary List and Jurisdictional Hold List are not allowed access to an event. Upon sanctioning approval, event organizers are sent the Jurisdictional Hold list.

Implementation:

- After event registration ends, event organizers must manually check the final participant registration list, including same day registrants, against the USRowing Jurisdictional Hold List which is sent to the regatta director via email upon sanctioning approval. Participants must also be checked against the [USRowing Safeguarding Disciplinary List](#). Any person on either list should be notified that they are prohibited from participating in any capacity at the event. Questions regarding eligibility can be directed to safeguarding@usrowing.org.
- Participants must adhere to any temporary measures placed by USRowing and/or The Center for SafeSport. If USRowing discovers that a Participant has violated temporary measures, USRowing will propose any changes to temporary restrictions or measures to the Center for review.
- Anyone on the USRowing Safeguarding Disciplinary List and Jurisdictional Hold List are not allowed access to an event. Member Organizations of all person(s) on Jurisdictional Hold are notified in writing when a USRowing member is placed on Jurisdictional Hold. This is to prevent the person(s) from participating in any USRowing programs and/or sanctioned events. Should a person on Jurisdictional Hold attempt to participate, the event organizer must notify USRowing immediately by emailing safeguarding@usrowing.org who will then notify the Center as soon as possible.

ADHERENCE TO MAAPP: Requirement: Event Organizers should proactively complete a risk assessment to recognize/eliminate vulnerabilities that may exist related to the MAAPP.

Implementation:

Risk Assessment at the event:

- Complete a walk-through of the venue, lock any doors to rooms that are not being used to prevent the room being used for 1:1 interactions.
- Identify areas where 1:1 interactions could easily occur and assign volunteers to monitor these areas
- Identify whether there are specific areas for changing, limit access to those areas, assign volunteers to monitor those areas during the event and place signage (linked below) in those areas.
- Provide a reminder of lodging policy requirement.
- Identify areas where athletes are present and limit access to those areas to Registered Participants and those who are required to follow policy if possible.
- Utilize signage around your event venue with helpful resources and reminders – see below for signage links

USRowing SafeSport Signage

[MAAPP Overview](#)

[Reporting Resources](#)

[One-on-one Interactions](#)

[Team Lodging](#)

[Electronic Communications](#)

[Team Travel](#)

[Center for SafeSport Resources](#)

USROWING OVERSIGHT OF EVENTS

USRowing is making an ongoing investment in roster maintenance and compliance software that will help us, and our members verify that participants are compliant with our membership, insurance, and SafeSport training requirements. The burden of compliance, while shared in practice, lies with our member organizations and we continuously communicate with them about requirements and the risk of non-compliance. SafeSport compliance is an integrated requirement through the largest event registration vendor in our sport and automatic warning for non-compliance are distributed to coaches and athletes in the lead up to each USRowing sanctioned or hosted regattas.

ADDRESSING MISCONDUCT AT AN EVENT

The Event Organizer/Regatta Director has the authority to manage all Safe Sport issues should they arise at an event where USRowing is not onsite. All Safe Sport matters must also be reported directly to USRowing and/or the US Center for SafeSport. The following are examples of actions that can be taken in response to a violation of policy or misconduct for the immediate safety of athletes and Participants:

- Verbal warning
- Asking a person to maintain distance from a specific individual(s)
- Removal from the event
- Police intervention

For more information on these procedures please contact Safeguarding@usrowing.org.

MESSAGING TEMPLATES:

The following scripts can be used:

MAAPP and How to Report:

USRowing is providing you with the [MAAPP, reporting policy](#), and [how to report violations](#) of sexual, emotional, or physical misconduct and violations of the MAAPP.

Please review them so you are aware of what to do if you see a violation.

Adherence to Policies and How to Report:

Dear (Adult Participant):

In preparation for the upcoming [Insert Event Name], this email is a formal reminder that as a registered participant in a USRowing event, you are required to adhere to the [USRowing Abuse Prevention and Response Policy](#), the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy, and the [SafeSport Code](#).

SafeSport Reporting: Reporting misconduct is vital to protecting athletes and preventing further incidents. Sexual Misconduct: If you have a reasonable suspicion that child sexual abuse or neglect has occurred, the first step should be to make a report to law enforcement. Please also report sexual misconduct to the U.S. Center for SafeSport here: <https://uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern/>

All other forms of Misconduct, including emotional and physical misconduct, and/or violations of Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies: please complete the [USRowing Safe Sport Reporting Form](#) or submit to safeguarding@usrowing.org