

# USOPC Internally Managed Sports (IMS) – Badminton & Para Badminton 2026 Athlete and Sport Program Plan

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Athletes' Advisory Group: <https://www.teamusa.com/badminton-athlete-information>

USOPC IMS - Badminton  
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## DEFINITIONS

1. **“2026”**: The following dates and seasons:
  - a. Summer Sports – the 2026 season, which lasts January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026
2. **“2027”**: The following dates and seasons:
  - a. Summer Sports – 2027 season / January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027
3. **“Athlete Stipend”**: Previously referred to as Direct Athlete Support or DAS
4. **“EAHI”**: Elite Athlete Health Insurance
5. **“IF”**: an International Federation
  - a. BWF – <https://bwfbadminton.com/>
6. **“NGB”**: National Governing Body.
7. **“USADA”**: The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency

## PROGRAM GOALS

The primary objective for 2026 is to support elite athlete participation in delegation events. For 2026 this would be in the 2026 Youth Olympic Games (YOG's). Team USA has not yet received a quota allocation for YOG's. If received, the USOPC IMS division will create the selection procedures, nominate the team, and provide resources for event support for Team USA athletes attending YOG's. Entry into all other BWF events for 2026 will remain the responsibility of USA Badminton. Additionally, our efforts will remain focused on achieving peak performance levels as we prepare for the upcoming LA28 Games, ensuring that each athlete has the necessary resources and opportunities to excel.

Specific activities in pursuit of these program goals will include:

- Provide EAHI and potential access to service provision for Elite Team USA athletes to support high performance and overall well-being.

## 2026 NATIONAL TEAM

USOPC IMS - Badminton will not nominate a National Team(s) for 2026.

- Athletes nominated to 2026 delegation events MAY be added to the USADA Registered Testing Pool/Clean Athlete Program/Education Testing Pool and will be responsible for remaining compliant with all policies and procedures, required by USADA. More information regarding USADA can be found in Attachment E.
- Athletes nominated to 2026 delegation events must be compliant with the [USOPC Background Check Policy](#), [USOPC Anti-Doping Policy](#), [USOPC Internally Managed Sport Code of Conduct](#), [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#) and [USOPC Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy](#).

### **ATHLETE BENEFITS AND RESOURCES**

Athletes MAY be eligible for the following benefits – all athlete support recommendations submitted by the NGB are subject to USOPC Sport Performance approval:

1. USOPC Athlete Stipend (Attachment B)
2. Operation Gold
3. USOPC IMS - Badminton Additional Athlete Support Programs (Attachment C)
2. [USOPC Elite Athlete Health Insurance Program](#) (Attachment D)
3. [USOPC Athlete Career & Education Program](#)
4. [Mental Health & Mental Performance Resources](#)
5. [Athlete Marketing Resources](#)
  1. [Athlete Marketing Platform](#)
6. Confidential Advising – [Team USA Athlete Ombuds](#) (Attachment H)
7. Air transportation (or ground equivalent), lodging, ground transportation, meal per diem, and/or coaching support at designated USOPC IMS - Skateboarding training and competition activities.
8. USOPC IMS - Badminton National Team uniform. Guidelines for apparel are outlined in the team rules and athlete handbook for each competition or team activity.
9. Access to service providers including nutrition, sport psych, strength & conditioning.

### **2026 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

The 2026 Team(s) activities are outlined below.

Each athlete is responsible for individual arrangements (including expenses) to attend BWF competitions (i.e. travel, lodging, accommodation, entries). All entries to BWF events must go through [USA Badminton](#). USAB contact: [esther.lin@usabadminton.org](mailto:esther.lin@usabadminton.org)

Selection procedures for events noted below can be found at:  
<https://www.teamusa.com/badminton>

The 2026 program calendar is subject to change.

2026 Youth Olympic Games  
October 31 – November 13, 2026  
Dakar, Senegal

### 2026 OPERATION GOLD

The Operation Gold qualifying event for USOPC IMS - Badminton is the [BWF World Championships 2026](#), August 17-23, India; and the [Bahrain BWF Para Badminton World Championships 2026](#), February 7-14, Bahrain.

In an Olympic and Paralympic Games year, teams and individuals must place in the top-three at the Olympic and Paralympic Games to qualify for an Operation Gold Event Award; multiple Operation Gold Event Awards can be received if an athlete has multiple top-three finishes at the Olympic or Paralympic Games.

In non-Olympic and non-Paralympic Games years, Operation Gold Awards are limited to one award per athlete in the Term; athletes who qualify for more than one award automatically receive the higher award.

Individuals must finish in one of the top eight places, while teams must finish in one of the top-six places at the qualifying event in a discipline on the program of the Olympic or Paralympic Games to qualify for an Operation Gold Award in a non-Olympic or non-Paralympic Games year.

For the purposes of Operation Gold, a team is defined as three or more athletes (pairs are awarded at the same rate as individual athletes).

The payment amounts for Operation Gold Event athlete results are as follows:

<b>USOPC Operation Gold Event – Olympic/Paralympic Sport Payment Schedule</b>				
<b>Place</b>	<b>1st Year of Quad</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year of Quad</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Year of Quad</b>	<b>Olympic/Paralympic Games Year</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$6,250	\$6,250	\$7,500	\$37,500
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$6,250	\$22,500
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$4,375	\$4,375	\$5,000	\$15,000
4 <sup>th</sup>	\$3,750	\$3,750	\$4,375	
5 <sup>th</sup>	\$3,125	\$3,125	\$3,750	
6 <sup>th</sup>	\$3,125	\$3,125	\$3,750	
7 <sup>th</sup>	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	
8 <sup>th</sup>	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	

**Attachment B**  
**2026 USOPC IMS - Badminton Athlete Stipends**

1. Athlete stipends are processed monthly on/before the first day of each month.
2. Athletes are eligible for athlete stipends at the beginning of the month following nomination to the National Team(s).
3. Athlete stipends are provided to athletes in compliance with their 2026 Athlete Agreement and personal performance plan obligations. If an athlete is not current with the agreement/plan obligations and/or USADA on the first day of the month in which the payment is being made, the athlete's payment will be withheld until he/she is compliant.
4. Athletes sanctioned by USADA, WADA and/or the respective sport IF for a doping violation are not eligible for an athlete stipend, regardless of any National Team(s) status, during the period of such sanction.
5. Athletes sanctioned by the U.S. Center for SafeSport, the USOPC, or another National Governing Body (NGB) for a SafeSport Code violation are not eligible for athlete stipends, regardless of any National Team(s) status, during the period of such sanction.
6. Athlete stipends will only be paid once the USOPC's Athlete Stipend Designee Form, Direct Deposit Form and W-9 Form have been completed and submitted (annual basis).
7. Athlete stipends are paid directly to the athlete. National Team athletes are responsible for understanding and maintaining their own eligibility status with other organizations where applicable (i.e. NCAA, NFHS, etc.), and may choose to decline athlete stipend payments in order to retain high school or collegiate eligibility.
8. Athlete stipends will be reported to the IRS and may be subject to federal and state income tax. The USOPC encourages athletes to speak with a tax professional to receive guidance regarding tax implications.
9. Female athletes who become pregnant must inform the USOPC health benefits administrator at [eahi@USOPC.org](mailto:eahi@USOPC.org). More information can be found on the [EAHI Website](#).

**2026 Criteria for USOPC IMS - Badminton Athlete Stipends (include dollar amounts):**

**Paralympic Athlete Stipend Criteria:**

Athlete Stipend eligibility criteria will be split into two eligibility periods, the first period being defined as January 1st, 2026 – June 30th, 2026, and the second period defined as July 1st, 2026 – December 31st, 2026. Athletes competing in Paralympic eligible Individual, Doubles, or Mixed Doubles events (*Doubles or Mixed Doubles teams must be a Paralympic eligible pair*) will be considered for eligibility. Athlete ranking criteria in individual event or doubles event categories are as follows:

**Period 1: January 1st, 2026 – June 30th, 2026**

- Individual athletes ranked in the top 12 of the BWF's Para Badminton World Rankings in a Paralympic eligible event at any time during Period 1 will be eligible for a \$1,000 per month Athlete Stipend to be paid on or before the end of each month through the duration

of Period 1 beginning the month in which the top 12 ranking was achieved through the end of Period 1.

- Doubles or Mixed Doubles pairs ranked in the top 12 of the BWF's Para Badminton World Rankings in a Paralympic eligible event at any time during Period 1 will be eligible for a \$1,000 per month Athlete Stipend to be paid on or before the end of each month through the duration of Period 1 beginning on the month in which the top 12 ranking was achieved through the end of Period 1.

Period 2: July 1st, 2026 – December 31st, 2026

- Individual athletes ranked in the top 12 of the BWF's Para Badminton World Rankings in a Paralympic eligible event at any time during Period 2 will be eligible for a \$1,000 per month Athlete Stipend to be paid on or before the end of each month through the duration of Period 2 beginning on the month in which the top 12 ranking was achieved through the end of Period 1.

Doubles or Mixed Doubles pairs ranked in the top 12 of the BWF's Para Badminton World Rankings in a Paralympic eligible event at any time during Period 2 will be eligible for a \$1,000 per month Athlete Stipend to be paid on or before the end of each month through the duration of Period 2 beginning on the month in which the top 12 ranking was achieved through the end of Period 1.

## Attachment D

### 2026 USOPC IMS - Badminton Elite Athlete Health Insurance (EAHI)

Upon meeting the criteria below eligible athletes will receive an email from the USOPC outlining the EAHI program benefits for further consideration.

1. Athletes must be currently training and competing to receive EAHI.
2. Enrollment in EAHI will only be completed once the athlete has accepted an EAHI offer via email from [eahi@USOPC.org](mailto:eahi@USOPC.org) and has completed and submitted the USOPC Elite Athlete Health Insurance Designee Form and W-9 Form (annual basis).
3. Athletes sanctioned by USADA, WADA and/or the respective sport IF for a doping violation are not eligible for EAHI, regardless of any National Team(s) status, during the period of such sanction.
4. Athletes sanctioned by the U.S. Center for SafeSport, the USOPC, or another National Governing Body (NGB) for a SafeSport Code violation are not eligible for EAHI, regardless of any team status, during the period of such sanction.
5. Athlete stipends will be reported to the IRS and may be subject to federal and state income tax. The USOPC encourages athletes to speak with a tax professional to receive guidance regarding tax implications.
6. Female athletes who become pregnant must inform the USOPC health benefits administrator at [eahi@USOPC.org](mailto:eahi@USOPC.org). More information can be found on the [EAHI Website](#).

#### Olympic Badminton EAHI Criteria:

USOPC IMS Badminton has been allocated seven (7) EAHI slots for 2026. Athletes meeting the USOPC's Team USA Definition criteria will be eligible for EAHI. In the event there are more athletes eligible than available EAHI slots allocated, the following event results and ranking data will be considered in the following priority order to offer EAHI. Additionally, a tie breaker procedure will be applied as necessary to factor in first the athletes with the highest ranking in their respective event.

To be eligible for EAHI, an athlete must:

- Meet the USOPC's Team USA eligibility requirements at the time the slot is being offered.
- <https://www.usopc.org/TeamUSA-Eligibility>

Eligibility for EAHI will be evaluated on January 1, 2026 using the following criteria:

- Are within the top 20 BWF singles world rankings and/or are within the top 20 BWF doubles world rankings as of January 1st, 2026. If an athlete achieves a top 20 BWF singles World Ranking and/or a top 50 BWF doubles World Ranking during the season.
- Athlete becomes eligible for EAHI at the time of achieving top 20 BWF singles World Ranking and/or a top 20 BWF doubles World Ranking.

- If more than one player/pair becomes eligible in the same event (MS/WS/MD/WD/XD), the top ranked player/pair will be offered the EAHl spot(s).
- Up to 7 OLY EAHl spots will be offered for the 2026 calendar year.
- Athletes have 30 days to enroll. If they do not enroll within the timeframe, the slot will go unused

### **Paralympic EAHl Criteria: 2 Slots Allocated**

U.S. Paralympics Badminton has been allocated two (2) EAHl slots for 2026. Athletes meeting the USOPC's Team USA Definition criteria will be eligible for EAHl. In the event there are more athletes eligible than available EAHl slots allocated, the following event results and ranking data will be considered in the following priority order to offer EAHl. Additionally, a tie breaker procedure will be applied as necessary to factor in first the athletes with the highest ranking in their respective event.

1. 2025 World Championships – Athletes entered into Paralympic eligible events and/or;
2. Athletes named in the Top-20 and top-half of BWF Para Badminton World Rankings as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025
3. Team USA Athlete Eligibility can be found [here](#).

## **Attachment E**

### **[U.S. Anti-Doping Agency \(USADA\) Resources](#)**

#### **Whereabouts:**

An important part of USADA's testing program is the ability to test athletes without any advance notice in an out-of-competition setting. Athletes are subject to testing 365 days a year and do not have "off-seasons" or cutoff periods in which testing does not occur. Whereabouts information, (dates, times, locations, etc.) is information submitted to USADA by an athlete that allows the athlete to be located for out-of-competition testing.

#### **Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs):**

In some situations, an athlete may have an illness or condition that requires the use of medication listed on the [World Anti-Doping Agency's Prohibited List](#). USADA can grant a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) in these situations in compliance with the World Anti-Doping Agency International Standard for TUEs. The TUE application process is thorough and designed to balance the need to provide athletes access to critical medication while protecting the rights of clean athletes to compete on a level playing field.

#### **Global Drug Reference Online (Global DRO):**

The Global Drug Reference Online (Global DRO) provides athletes and support personnel with information about the prohibited status of specific medications based on the current World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Prohibited List.

#### **Clean Sport Handbook:**

A comprehensive resource providing an overview of the doping control process, athlete rights and responsibilities, and other crucial information for athletes and athlete support personnel.

#### **Pocket Guide:**

A condensed resource providing an overview of the doping control process, athlete rights and responsibilities, and other crucial information for athletes and athlete support personnel.

#### **Supplement Guide:**

The TrueSport Supplement Guide details the benefits of a food-first nutrition strategy, providing food and supplement comparisons, as well as ways to help athletes realize and reduce the risks associated with dietary supplements.

#### **Nutrition Guide:**

In consultation with registered dietitians, USADA and its TrueSport program created an optimal dietary intake guide for those looking to reach their full potential through nutrition.

**Attachment F**  
**2026 USOPC IMS - Badminton Team**  
**Procedures & Obligations**

**USOPC IMS - Badminton Team Procedures**

- Failure to comply with the Athlete Obligations listed below or violating the Athlete Agreement will result in a suspension of athlete stipends, other team benefits
- The USOPC Dispute Resolution Procedures can be found at:  
<https://www.teamusa.com/badminton>

**USOPC IMS - Badminton Athlete Obligations**

- Maintain compliance with USOPC IMS - Badminton Athlete Agreement
- Maintain compliance with the [USOPC Code of Conduct for Internally Managed Sports](#)
- Maintain compliance with USADA, IOC, IF, and WADA anti-doping policies
- Provide regular training updates and touchpoints with USOPC IMS staff and participate in designated meetings
- Maintain compliance with the 2026 USOPC IMS - Badminton team rules, regulations and travel policies.

**USOPC IMS - Badminton Team Rules and Regulations (if applicable)**

- The possession or use of controlled substances by any athlete during competition is prohibited.
- The possession or use of alcohol by any athlete in the field of play before or during an event is prohibited.
- The possession or use of weapons, such as guns, knives, swords, etc., by any athlete or staff member is prohibited.
- During Team travel, daily curfews (“lights out” times) established by the Team Staff must be observed by all athletes.
- Team members and staff will attend all team functions including meetings, practices, exhibitions, press conferences, competitions, etc., unless otherwise excused or instructed by the Head Coach or Team Leader.
- Team members and staff will cooperate with all Team leadership and USOPC IMS – Badminton staff (to include, but not limited to Team Leader, Head Coach, USOPC IMS Leadership).
- Team members and staff will refrain from behavior that would detract from a positive image of USOPC IMS - Badminton or that would be detrimental to its performance objectives.
- Team members and staff will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrators, fellow competitors, and the public.
- For designated Rule 50 events [Olympic Games, etc.], team members and staff will wear USOPC and/or USOPC IMS - Badminton provided apparel as required and as designated by Team leadership (Team Leader, Head Coach, USOPC IMS Leadership).
- During USOPC IMS - Badminton funded and supported trips, team members must adhere to the following:

- Team members are required to sleep in their assigned rooms and are not permitted to switch rooms – even temporarily – without prior approval from USOPC IMS Leadership.
- To ensure the propriety of the athletes and to protect the staff, there will be no male athletes in female athletes’ rooms, and no female athletes in male athletes’ rooms. There will be a team room provided for relaxation and recreation whenever possible.
- Public intoxication or consuming alcohol to excess is prohibited.
- Staff drinking with athletes is not allowed. This includes being in the same establishment or in the same room together.
- Athletes under the age of 21 may not consume alcohol regardless of the laws in the country the team is competing or training in.
- Team members and staff will keep accommodations clean and in good condition.
- An open and observable environment should be maintained for all interactions between staff and athletes. Private, or one-on-one situations should be avoided unless open and observable. Common sense should be used to move a meeting to an open and observable location if the meeting inadvertently begins in private.
- Bullying, disparagement, or defamation of teammates, fellow competitors, team staff, event organizers, or IF representatives – verbally, through social media, email, or text – is prohibited.

## **Attachment H Ombuds' Policy**

### **Athlete Ombuds**

Team USA athletes may contact the Office of the Athlete Ombuds for independent and confidential advice on a variety of sport related matters, including their rights, applicable rules, policies or processes, and questions related to resolving disputes and grievances. The Athlete Ombuds can also help Team USA athletes connect with legal counsel or mental health resources if needed. All other NGB athletes (i.e., athletes competing domestically at the masters or youth level, recreational athletes, foreign athletes) are welcome to visit the Athlete Ombuds website to review informational resources and should work directly with their NGB to understand additional resources and options available to them.

Phone: 719-866-5000

Email: [ombudsman@usathlete.org](mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org)

Website: [usathlete.org](http://usathlete.org)

### **Athlete Ombuds Confidentiality and Privacy Policy:**

(A) In general.—The Office of the Athlete Ombuds shall maintain as confidential any information communicated or provided to the Office of the Athlete Ombuds in confidence in any matter involving the exercise of the official duties of the Office of the Athlete Ombuds.

(B) Exception.—The Office of the Athlete Ombuds may disclose information described in subparagraph (A) as necessary to resolve or mediate a dispute, with the permission of the parties involved.

(C) Judicial and administrative proceedings.—(i) In general.—The ombudsman and the staff of the Office of the Athlete Ombuds shall not be compelled to testify or produce evidence in any judicial or administrative proceeding with respect to any matter involving the exercise of the duties of the Office of the Athlete Ombuds. (ii) Work product.—Any memorandum, work product, notes, or case file of the Office of the Athlete Ombuds—(I) shall be confidential; and (II) shall not be—(aa) subject to discovery, subpoena, or any other means of legal compulsion; or (bb) admissible as evidence in a judicial or administrative proceeding.

(D) Applicability.—The confidentiality requirements under this paragraph shall not apply to information relating to—(i) applicable federally mandated reporting requirements; (ii) a felony personally witnessed by a member of the Office of the Athlete Ombuds; (iii) a situation, communicated to the Office of the Athlete Ombuds, in which an individual is at imminent risk of serious harm; or (iv) a congressional subpoena.

### **Anti-retaliation Statement**

No employee, contractor, agent, volunteer, or member of the NGB or USOPC shall take or threaten action against an athlete as a reprisal for disclosing information to or seeking assistance from the Office of the Athlete Ombuds.

## **Attachment I Athlete Safety**

Athlete safety is of the utmost importance to the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC). In an effort to create a safe environment that is free from misconduct and abuse, it is critical that you review the policies and reporting requirements listed below. While we have provided some important highlights from the policies below, please take the time to review them thoroughly. For additional information regarding the USOPC's Athlete Safety Program, or to report an allegation of misconduct or abuse please visit [www.usopc.org/safe-sport](http://www.usopc.org/safe-sport).

### **Policies**

- [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#)
- [USOPC Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies \(MAAPP\)](#)
- U.S. Center for SafeSport's [SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement](#) (SafeSport Code)

### **Prohibited Conduct**

Adult participants are expected to refrain from engaging in Prohibited Conduct as defined in the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#), and the U.S. Center for SafeSport's [SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement](#). Prohibited Conduct includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Sexual misconduct
- Child abuse
- Emotional misconduct
- Physical misconduct
- Bullying
- Harassment
- Hazing
- Retaliation
- Violations of the USOPC MAAPP

### **USOPC MAAPP**

Adult participants are required to be familiar with and comply with the USOPC MAAPP. The USOPC MAAPP establishes clear requirements for interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes. Minor Athletes, and their parent/legal guardian, should also be familiar with the USOPC MAAPP.

### **Reporting Requirements**

As detailed in the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy, Adult Participants are required to report allegations of Prohibited Conduct, to include violations of the MAAPP. While the mandatory reporting requirements apply to Adult Participants, the USOPC encourages anyone who becomes aware of, or experiences misconduct or abuse, to report those allegations. For additional information regarding the USOPC's Athlete Safety Program or to report an allegation of

Prohibited Conduct please visit [www.usopc.org/safe-sport](http://www.usopc.org/safe-sport) and review the USOPC Reporting Guidelines below.

### **Training Requirements**

Adult participants must complete, or have completed within the last calendar year, the U.S. Center for SafeSport's SafeSport™ Trained Core training, or applicable Refresher training course if they have previously taken the SafeSport™ Trained Core training. Please note, NGB membership with SafeSport training will be accepted. If you are not in compliance with training, depending on the required course, it will take at least between 30 to 90 minutes to complete the training. Taking the SafeSport™ Trained Core or Refresher training is free.

If you are a Minor Athlete, completing SafeSport training is not required, however, we recommend Minor Athletes work with their parent/guardian to take the free youth training course offered by the U.S. Center for SafeSport. The U.S. Center for SafeSport also has resources available to parents/guardians regarding abuse prevention in sport, to include the Parent Toolkit, and free online training. These resources, and information regarding the training for both minor athletes and parents/guardians is available at: <https://uscenterforsafesport.org/training-and-education/safesport-courses-for-all/>.

### **USOPC Reporting Guidelines**

If you learn of any allegation of emotional, physical or sexual misconduct, retaliation, or a violation of the USOPC Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP), **DO NOT evaluate the credibility of the allegation or investigate the allegation. Your vital job is simply to report the allegation to the appropriate entities.** The following guideline outlines your reporting requirements.

### **How to Report a Concern**

**For Sexual Misconduct, Child Abuse, or Retaliation: Report to the U.S. Center for SafeSport (the Center)**

- Online: <https://uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern/>
- Phone: 833-587-7233
- If you become aware of an allegation of sexual misconduct, child abuse, or retaliation you **must immediately** report to the Center.

In addition to reporting to the Center, you **must also report child abuse to law enforcement.** If you learn of information or reasonably suspect that a child (defined as under the age of 18) has suffered an incident of child abuse to include neglect, physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, you **must** report this to law enforcement, or, in some states, child protective services **immediately.** Filing a report with the Center **does not** satisfy the reporting requirement to law enforcement. Please include the law enforcement case number or reference number in your report to the Center. The appropriate law enforcement agency or child protective services agency is most often the local agency where the incident occurred.

**For Emotional or Physical Misconduct or MAAPP Violations\*: Report to the USOPC Office of Athlete Safety**

- Online: <https://www.teamusa.org/AthleteSafetyReportingForm>

- Phone: 719-866-3869
- Report directly to the Office of Athlete Safety: Maggie Green at [Maggie.Green@usopc.org](mailto:Maggie.Green@usopc.org) or 719-208-6031, or report directly to Nicole Deal at [Nicole.Deal@usopc.org](mailto:Nicole.Deal@usopc.org) or 719-373-7041. If you report directly to Maggie or Nicole, they will talk through the various options for reporting and will help to ensure that you satisfy your reporting obligations.
  - Nothing precludes you from reporting emotional or physical misconduct or MAAPP violations to the Center. While the Center has the exclusive jurisdiction for response & resolution of allegations of sexual misconduct, they can also assume discretionary jurisdiction over other forms of misconduct. If they do not assume jurisdiction, they have a process to route the allegation to the appropriate entity (e.g. NGB or USOPC) for response & resolution.

\*NOTE: If you learn of information or reasonably suspect that a child (under the age of 18) has suffered an incident of child abuse to include sexual abuse, you must follow the reporting requirements to law enforcement outlined in the Sexual Misconduct, Child Abuse, and Retaliation section above.

### **USOPC Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies: MAAPP AT-A-GLANCE**

All **one-on-one interactions** between an Adult Participant and Minor Athlete must be **observable** and **interruptible**. The one-on-one interactions policy must be followed for **all in-program contact** meaning any contact including communications, interactions, or activities between an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) **related to participation in sport**.

If one of the following **exceptions exists**, the one-on-one interactions policy *does not* apply:

- An **Emergency** occurs
- A **Dual Relationship** exists (written consent required)
- The **Close-in-Age exception** applies (written consent required for lodging)
- The Minor Athlete needs an **Adult Personal Care Assistant** (written consent required)

*\*written consent in this document refers to written consent from the parent/guardian of the Minor Athlete.*

#### **Meetings and Training Sessions**

- Must follow the one-on-one interactions policy
- **Individual Training Sessions require annual written consent**, and parents/guardians are allowed to observe
- Closed door meetings with **licensed providers** are permissible if the door is unlocked, another adult is present at the facility and notified, the USOPC is notified, and the provider obtains consent
- Virtual meetings with **licensed providers** are permissible if an Adult Participant and USOPC are notified, and the provider obtains consent

### **Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities and Manual Therapy**

- Must be **observable** and **interruptible**
- **A second Adult Participant must be physically present**
- **Annual written consent** is required, and parent/guardian must be allowed to observe except where credentialing is limited
- Can **only be administered** by licensed or otherwise certified providers (excluding coaches)
- Private areas of the minor **must** always be covered
- **No exceptions** to this policy

### **Locker Rooms and Changing Areas**

- Must follow the one-on-one interactions policy
- **No** photography or recording
- When changing, Adult Participants **cannot** intentionally expose their private areas to Minor Athletes
- **Cannot** shower with Minor Athletes unless a Close-in-Age exception exists, or for pre-or post-activity rinse while wearing swimwear
- For events or facilities under USOPC jurisdiction, locker room monitoring **must** occur and changing areas **must** be provided for Minor Athletes

### **Electronic Communications**

- Includes **but is not limited to** phone calls, videoconferencing, video coaching, texts, email, and social media
- Must be **open** and **transparent**
- The Minor Athlete's parent/guardian, another adult family member, or another Adult Participant **must be copied**
- Another Adult Participant or all the Minor Athletes' parents/guardians must be copied on **all team communications**
- All communication must be **professional**

### **Transportation**

- Must follow the one-on-one interactions policy
- Meets the requirements if an Adult Participant is **accompanied by another Adult Participant or at least two minors**
- One-on-one transportation is permitted if **advance, written consent** is obtained
- **Annual written consent** is required for all transportation sanctioned by the USOPC

### **Lodging**

- Must follow the one-on-one interactions policy
- **Cannot** share a hotel room/sleep in the same room with a Minor Athlete(s) unless a close in-age, dual relationship, or PCA exception exists, and written consent is obtained
- **Annual written consent** is required for all in-program lodging
- **Written consent required for all shared housing arrangements** that include Minor Athlete(s) and Adult Participant(s), even if the minor has their own separate bedroom (e.g., Airbnb)

- Adult Participants traveling overnight with Minor Athlete(s) **must agree to** the lodging policy annually and comply with the Education & Training Policy
- Two adults **must be present** for room checks

## **Attachment J**

### **USOPC Speak Up Policy**

The USOPC and IMS have zero tolerance for retaliation against people who make good faith reports of potential ethical, policy, or legal violations, or who cooperate with investigations of those reports. That means no USOPC or IMS staff, Board or Committee member, or volunteer may threaten, harass, discriminate against, or take any negative employment or related action (e.g., discharge, demotion, suspension, negative review) on that basis.

- Individuals may report concerns to the USOPC confidentially, or anonymously, online using the [USOPC Integrity Portal](#) or individuals may call the USOPC Integrity Hotline at 1-877-404-9935.
- Additional information can be found in the [USOPC's Speak Up Policy](#).