



Sanctioned Events with Youth Participants Policy *May 21, 2024*

I. Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that USA Triathlon (USAT) Event Directors who may have any youth athletes or participants in any capacity are compliant with all requirements mandated by the U.S. Center for SafeSport (the Center) and, therefore, Congress. By establishing a system that requires events to ensure that anyone participating in their event is not on any banned list and that those who require it are SafeSport certified, USAT can keep multisport safe and protect athletes of all ages at every level of competition. This procedure will rely on communications and cooperation between the USAT Constituent Relations Department, the USAT Legal Department, the USAT National Events department, and all USAT Event Directors. All events that do not explicitly state that they will be adult only and that no one under the age of 18 will be on the premises must abide by this standard operating procedure.

This policy may be amended, suspended, or revoked at any time at the sole discretion of USAT.

II. Responsibilities of Event Directors

Event Directors will be responsible for certain requirements that take place in advance, during, and after their event. These requirements connect directly with audit finding prevention regarding the Center for SafeSport. Upon request by the Event Director, and approval by USAT, USAT will assist the Event Director in complying with the requirements set forth in this policy.

A. Before the Event:

- a. Event Directors will ask athletes to provide contact information for coaches that will potentially be attending. This may be done during registration for the event or separately.
- b. Event Directors will provide list of coaches gained from athletes to USAT 2 weeks in advance of their event.
- c. Event Directors will check the names of participants (registered athletes, staff, volunteers, others involved with the event) against the banned lists that they will receive in an email from USAT at the 2 week and 1 week mark in advance of their event.
- d. Event Directors will send the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) to all event participants in advance of the event.

B. During the Event:

- a. Event Directors will have an area at the event for coaches to check-in.
- b. At this check-in, Event Directors will check coaches' SafeSport Training (coaches can provide this by either showing the completion certificate or the dates of completion in their USA Triathlon member account) or find their name on the list of compliant coaches provided by USAT.

- c. A coach who is not SafeSport trained will be given the opportunity to be trained at check-in. If a coach opts out of the opportunity to be trained, they will be informed that they are not permitted to coach any athletes at the event.
- d. Event Directors will also check coaches' IDs against the banned list at the check-in point. Every coach must have photo identification. If a coach does not have a photo ID, there are two options: (1) go home to get it or (2) have someone email/text them a copy of their photo ID.
 - i. If a banned or suspended individual attempts to participate in an event, the Race Director **must** immediately notify the USA Triathlon Legal Department at trisafe@usatriathlon.org.

C. After the Event:

- a. Event Director will send a list of all coaches that checked in at their event, the SafeSport statuses of those that checked in, along with any other information that may have been collected.

Race Directors will be required to acknowledge and affirm that they adhered to the above mandates during the sanctioning application process before approval of the event is given.

III. Responsibilities of USA Triathlon

USA Triathlon will be responsible for certain requirements that will serve to assist all Event Directors in complying with the newly established requirements put forth by the U.S. Center for SafeSport. These responsibilities will take place in advance of and after sanctioned races occur. Additionally, in order to make sure that resources are available to Event Directors, USAT will also maintain ongoing responsibilities to ensure that Event Directors are supported as they meet newly implemented audit requirements.

A. Before the Event:

- a. USAT will check SafeSport completions for all coaches provided by Event Directors in advance of their event.
- b. USAT will provide the Event Director with a returned list of coaches that may potentially attend with their SafeSport statuses for a quicker check-in process for coaches at sanctioned events. Additionally, USAT will check the names of these coaches against the banned list.
 - i. Any coaches that may show that are not on this list will need to be confirmed by the Event Director to be SafeSport trained.
- c. USAT will send an email with resources and requirements to Event Directors approximately 2 weeks and 1 week in advance of their event.

B. After the Event:

- a. After the Event Director submits the information during the post-race process, USAT will check the submission to confirm that the following information was included:
 - i. A list of which coaches checked in at the event and their SafeSport certification statuses.
 - ii. Verifying that all coaches have current SafeSport statuses within the Event Director's submission.
 - iii. Ensure that no one from the banned list is noted on the coaches list submitted by the Event Director.

C. Ongoing Measures:

- a. USAT will maintain a location on its website specifically for resources for Event Directors who may have potential youth attendees.

- b. USAT will continue to communicate the MAAPP to its constituency throughout the year within various newsletters.
- c. USAT will host an annual town hall with coaches, clubs, and Event Directors to discuss SafeSport compliance and complying with the MAAPP.
- d. USAT will hold a special education session at its annual conference to remind and update members of its community on changes, best practices, and requirements of SafeSport and the MAAPP.