

U.S. Center for SafeSport's Policies at a Glance

1. *Sexual contact or "romantic" relationships of any type between an athlete and a person who has a position of power over the athlete are prohibited.*
 - a. A "person with a position of power" includes coaches, administrators, judges, referees, employers, staff, medical personnel, and even volunteers.
 - b. U.S. Center for SafeSport's flat prohibition on sexual contact covers children, who are under the age of 18. Sexual contact with a child is also prohibited under criminal law; it is a felony and consent is no defense.
 - c. This flat prohibition also includes an athlete that is 18 years old+ and/ or an athlete that "consents" to sexual or romantic contact.
 - d. When there is more of a peer relationship, such as teammates, and no imbalance of power, sexual contact with minors is still prohibited when their ages are separated by more than three years.
 - e. Peer sexual abuse is also a violation of the SafeSport code.
 - f. All competitive levels are covered by this prohibition; not just elite athletes.

2. *The club-sport and Olympic family, broadly speaking, are required to report sexual abuse, suspected abuse, and may not retaliate against those who report sexual abuse.* You should not conduct your own investigation or make a determination of credibility before reporting. You do not need to get the consent of the victim prior to reporting.
Reports should be made to the authorities and can be made to SafeSport by phone: 720-524-5640 or at this online link: <https://safesport.org/response-resolution/report>.

3. *SafeSport defines sexual contact broadly; it is any intentional body contact, clothed or unclothed, of a person's intimate body part(s) with another person, up to and including sexual intercourse.*

4. *SafeSport also prohibits non-contact behaviors of a sexual nature, including exploitation, including taking and/or disseminating pictures, video or audio recordings, voyeurism, or exhibitionism.* Non-contact sexual behaviors can also include creating, sharing, or viewing of pornography.

5. *It does not matter when the abuse happened; SafeSport will investigate even if the legal statutes of limitation have expired for any criminal and civil penalties.* SafeSport itself imposes no statute of limitations.

6. *The elements of an ethical coach-athlete relationship are:*
 - a. An ethical coach will not text, email or call an athlete separately from teammates.
 - b. An ethical coach may have one-on-one conversations, but will not separate an athlete, so that they remain within ear-shot or viewing distance of others.
 - c. An ethical coach will not fat-shame or humiliate an athlete.
 - d. An ethical coach will not hit or kick an athlete; and will not throw objects like sporting equipment at another person.
 - e. An ethical coach will not give an athlete a gift.
 - f. An ethical coach will not require an athlete to practice or play on a serious injury.

7. *Victims, parents, and peers can: Tell the police, their doctor, their mental health practitioner, their school teacher, principal, or Title IX Coordinator.* They can also call SafeSport and report the abuse: 720-524-5640.

8. *If you suspect child sexual abuse, don't try to interview a child; get them to an expert.* Treat any suspected victim with respect and care. Contact the authorities and call SafeSport and report the abuse: 720-524-5640.

