



# IN-DEPTH TIMELINE

## 1980

- USA Swimming opens.

## 1991

- First member permanently banned for misconduct.

## 1998

- USA Swimming adopts a member Code of Conduct.

## 2004

- The Child Protection Policy for Staff and National Volunteers established.

## 2005

- The Child Protection Task Force established.

## 2007

- Criminal background checks are required for coaches, staff, and select member groups and must be renewed every other year.

## 2010

- USA Swimming's comprehensive Safe Sport Program, the first in the Olympic movement, launches.
- The Child Welfare League of America partners with USA Swimming to review and make recommendations to expand its athlete protection efforts.
- The Code of Conduct is updated and Safe Sport Best Practices are released.
- Athlete Protection Policies, including rules regarding travel, boundaries, and grooming behaviors, are adopted.
- Reporting Policies, including mandatory reporting and anti-retaliation, are adopted.
- USA Swimming launches its online reporting form, which allows for anonymous and confidential reporting.

- The national Safe Sport Committee is appointed and charged with review of athlete protection policies, guidelines, educational programs, reporting and adjudication procedures. Membership includes athletes, coaches, officials, and outside experts from the fields of law enforcement, abuse prevention, legal, and Olympic Sport.
- USA Swimming hires a Director of Safe Sport, the first position of its kind in the Olympic movement.

## 2011

- The criminal background check requirement is expanded to include all non-athlete members and also to search the member county of residence and conduct a monthly recurring check.
- Member clubs are required to conduct pre-employment screens on any new employee including: (1) reference checks; (2) education verification; and (3) motor vehicle report.
- Athlete Protection Training is launched and required for all non-athlete members including all coaches, officials, and staff. APT must be renewed every other year.
- The Safe Sport department adds a second full time staff member.

## 2012

- Free Safe Sport Training for parents is released.
- Member clubs are required to have an electronic communication policy and an anti-bullying policy.
- The Safe Sport program trains over 600 people in in-person workshops or conferences.

## 2013

- USA Swimming hosts its inaugural Safe Sport Leadership Conference, the first of its kind of the Olympic movement. 18 NGBs and the USOC are among the 175 attendees.
- The Safe Sport Handbook is published and distributed to all 1,800 member clubs.
- Free Safe Sport Training for athletes released.
- Rules are updated to prohibit peer-peer sexual abuse.
- Each of the 59 Local Swimming Committees is required to elect or appoint an LSC Safe Sport Coordinator. Training workshops for Safe Sport Chairs are offered twice annually.
- The Safe Sport program trains over 750 people in in-person workshops or conferences.

## 2014

- Victor Vieth, executive director of the Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center, releases the Vieth Report following his independent review of the USA Swimming Safe Sport Program, including access to review all past case files.
- USA Swimming's Vieth Report Task Force adopts 38 of 39 recommendations from the Report and produces a four-phased plan for implementation.
- USA Swimming creates and hires its first in-house counsel position.
- The Safe Sport department adds a third full time staff member to lead education and outreach efforts.
- The Safe Sport program trains 1,060 people in 26 in-person workshops or conferences.

## 2015

- USA Swimming hosts the 2nd Safe Sport Leadership Conference.
- USA Swimming releases the 2015 Vieth Progress Report, with implementation complete on 13 of 38 recommendations.
- A second course is added to the Athlete Protection Training curriculum required for all non-athlete members.
- Free anti-bullying training is released.
- USA Swimming requires all member clubs training at the Olympic Training Center to receive in person Safe Sport training.
- Zone Safe Sport Coordinators are appointed to coordinate communication between the national effort and the Local Swimming Committees.
- The Safe Sport Club Coordinator position is created.
- The Safe Sport Self-Assessment, a free, online tool, allows clubs to gauge current Safe Sport efforts and where the club could be doing more to engage.

- SwimStaffSelect, a custom online tool for clubs to manage hiring and employment practices, is released and made available free for USA Swimming clubs.
- SwimAssist is launched to provide financial support for survivors of harm through swimming to seek counseling or other services to address the trauma suffered.
- The Safe Sport program trains 2,395 people in 43 in-person workshops or conferences.

## 2016

- USA Swimming hosts the first NGB Safe Sport Roundtable.
- Safe Sport Real Talk debuts at the US Olympic Trials Aquazone fan engagement area and shares Safe Sport with 648 fans over 3 days.
- The Safe Sport Athlete Fellowship launches, engaging athletes from across the country in a year long leadership program focused on promoting Safe Sport at their home clubs and LSCs.
- The Safe Sport program trains 2,970 people in 65 in-person workshops or conferences.
- Safe Sport Mondays are introduced to facilitate regular conversation about Safe Sport between coaches and athletes.

## 2017

- USA Swimming hosts the 3rd Safe Sport Leadership Conference.
- USA Swimming releases the 2017 Vieth Progress Report, with implementation complete on 18 of 38 recommendations, and implementation in progress on 12 additional items.
- The United States Olympic Committee conducts a Safe Sport audit of all 47 NGBs. USA Swimming meets the Athlete Safety Standards in full with no observations.
- The US Center for Safe Sport launches creating an independent agency for Safe Sport case management and adjudication.
- Online learning platform, USA Swimming LEARN, launches with three new and updated Safe Sport member courses.
- The Safe Sport Activity Book is released as a tool to introduce Safe Sport ideas to swimmers ages 12&Under.
- Set, Direct, Protect is introduced as a program slogan and club engagement strategy.
- The Safe Sport program trains 3,048 people in 62 in-person workshops or conferences.