



Dear USEF Competition Organizers, Managers and Secretaries,

We are writing to provide you with more information regarding the competitor notification requirement communicated to you last week. This information includes the reason for the requirement and what USEF and competitions need to do to ensure compliance. Below you will find a proposed solution for those who face challenges with the advance notification to participants requirement due to situations such as lack of contact information, lack of mass email platform, or not knowing who will participate until the day of the event.

For background, the federal law known as Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017 authorizes the U.S. Center for SafeSport (Center) to develop training and policies to prevent abuse, including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, within the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Movement. It also mandates that reasonable procedures are established to one-on-one interactions with minor athletes. To this end, the Center has drafted Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policies (MAAPP) which apply to all National Governing Bodies for Sport including the USEF. One requirement for implementation is notification to all USEF licensed competition participants that i. they must adhere to the MAAPP ; and ii. how to report MAAPP violations and abuse allegations.

We recognize the challenges of our competition environment, including that many competitors do not pre-enter events. Therefore, effective immediately, when a competition cannot notify participants directly by email within 30 day prior to competing, and when participants enter at the competition, we suggest the following reasonable process to ensure competition organizer and USEF compliance with this notification requirement.

1. Print the [USEF MAAPP poster](#) along with the [USEF suggested letter](#) and post them in a conspicuous location for the participants to read when they check-in or register at the competition. Please kindly request that they read it.
2. Additionally, we recommend that you include the content from the [USEF suggested letter](#) in the prize list as well as on your website, if applicable, or where the show information is made available to participants.

As a reminder, the USEF suggested letter reminds all participants (trainers, riders, owners, officials, volunteers, event staff, etc) that they are bound by the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#), [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#), and [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#), also known as the MAAPP. Additionally, it reminds them how to report concerns involving alleged violations of the MAAPP or U.S. Center for SafeSport Code or USEF Safe Sport Policy. For concerns that are non-sexual in nature, we request that they use the [USEF Safe Sport Incident Reporting Form](#) available on the USEF website. For concerns regarding sexual misconduct, we request that they report to <https://safesport.i-sight.com/portal> and the authorities if a minor is involved.

We also suggest that all competition organizers include the information in their prize list (online and print versions) and hang the posters in conspicuous locations around the venue.

We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining compliance with this requirement and in joining our efforts to maintain a safe competition environment for everyone.

If you have questions about the requirements for competition organizers, please contact Lisa Owens at lowens@usef.org.

Best Regards,

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