



USA Swimming Safe Sport Isn't SPOOKY

USA Swimming's Safe Sport program is meant to help your program, not scare your members away.

Read the below personal story from a member*:

"The past several months have been a journey for our team as we faced our first report to Safe Sport. When the event on our team happened, no one had ever reported an incident to Safe Sport. **There was fear among many parents and some leadership that reporting was scary** and could lead to harsh disciplinary actions that no one wanted to face. There were also divides among the team (to report), with murmurs of some wanting to **leave the team if we reported.**

Now, there has been a real **shift for the good in how the team thinks about Safe Sport - especially among the leadership and parents.**

In ensuring conversations with the Center and USA Swimming Safe Sport, your approach (of teaching and providing a learning opportunities for kids) was a point of consistency. This is absolutely how it should be. **Rather than disciplining kids, it is far more effective to work through these events and provide the room to learn and grow.**

If we had known, that **Safe Sport is there as a resource versus the swimming police** and something to be afraid of, our time and energy would have been spent very differently, avoiding

several agonizing months for families and team leadership as we tried to navigate this on our own wanting to maintain team cohesion and focus on swimming, treat the event with the seriousness it deserved, and balance the various emotions and options of the parties involved.

I have come to know and continue to share with the team that you, and the others within USA Swimming and the Center, are there as a resource and there is nothing to be afraid of. Rather, **you provide incredible support."**

Not knowing what to do can be scary, but USA Swimming Safe Sport doesn't have to be.

**Names and specific information omitted.*

Upcoming Trainings

Take advantage of three upcoming trainings:

1. Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Program (MAAPP): Educational webinar focused on new additions for the 2024-25 season.

- TOMORROW, October 15 from 1-2 p.m. ET | [REGISTER](#)
- Target Audience: All members

2. Fall LSC USA Swimming Safe Sport Chairs Workshop: The annual LSC Safe Sport Chairs Workshop will discuss changes to MAAPP, Safe Sport Club Recognition (SSRP), and connecting with Club Safe Sport Coordinators in your LSCs.

- Saturday, October 26 from 2-5 p.m. ET | [REGISTER](#)
- [Fill out the topics survey here](#)
- Please join us for as much of the workshop as possible. A recording link will be available for those unable to attend.
- Target Audience: LSC Safe Sport Chairs

3. Club USA Swimming Safe Sport Coordinator Training: Learn about your role as a Club Safe Sport Coordinator.

- Monday, November 4 from 6-7:30 p.m. ET | [REGISTER](#)
- [Fill out the topics survey here](#)
- Target Audience: Club Safe Sport Coordinators

Prepare Your Facility

Reprint and hang new signage around your facility!

Print the below examples and more on the [USA Swimming Safe Sport Club Toolkit page](#).



Don't Forget: MAAPP Out Your Season

Join us TOMORROW, October 15 from 1-2 p.m. ET for a webinar to discuss new Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP) requirements. [Register now!](#)

Start strategizing what your 2024-25 season plan looks like now! Not sure where to start? Review the below links to get started:

- [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy](#)
- [Safe Sport Club Recognition \(SSRP\)](#):
 - Follow the [3-month](#) or [6-month](#) checklist.
 - Review [these step-by-step instructions](#) to fill out your SSRP application.
 - Attend [free monthly trainings](#) to earn points.
 - View your [personalized club report](#) to see what parents and athletes have completed online education.
- [Athlete Protection Policy \(APT\)](#):
 - Reminder: APT needs to be completed annually for every member 18 years old and older.

Thank you for all you do to support USA Swimming Safe Sport!

LEARN MORE

Member Spotlight

Thank you to all our members who have participated at in-person trainings!



2024 Safe Sport Club Recognition Training

For Parents:

- November 6, 8 p.m. ET | [REGISTER](#)
- December 4, 8 p.m. ET | [REGISTER](#)

For Athletes:

- November 7, 8 p.m. ET | [REGISTER](#)
- December 5, 8 p.m. ET | [REGISTER](#)

For Coaches:

- November 8, 3 p.m. ET | [REGISTER](#)
- December 6, 3 p.m. ET | [REGISTER](#)

Members can also take trainings online at their own pace through the Education tab on their USA Swimming account. To learn more, including easy-to-follow steps, visit USA Swimming's Safe Sport training page [here](#).



Unable to Attend Educational Opportunities Live?

If the timing doesn't work, that's ok! [Log in](#) to USA Swimming University to start and complete courses at your own pace.

Tip: These courses will count towards SSRP approval points. If you click these links, don't forget to login!

- For parents: [Parents Guide to Misconduct in Sport](#)
- For athletes: [SafeSport for Youth Athletes \(5-12\)](#), [SafeSport for Youth Athletes \(13-17\)](#)

A screenshot of the USA Swimming University website. The page has a dark blue header with 'SWIM SHOP' and a 'Login' button with a user icon, indicated by a yellow arrow. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'Education' and 'Help' links. The main content area features the USA Swimming logo and the text 'Welcome to USA Swimming University'. A 'BACK TO COURSES' button is visible. The primary course card is titled 'Parents Guide to Misconduct in Sport' and includes a description: 'This course educates parents on recognizing, responding to, and preventing abuse and misconduct in their child's sport setting.' Below the description is a warning icon and the text 'Must be logged in to access this course'. The course details show a price of '\$0.00 (Member)' and '\$0.00 (Non-Member)', and an age range of 'Ages 17.5 to ∞'. A small thumbnail image shows a person in a white protective suit, with the text 'SAFESPORT PARENT'S GUIDE TO MISCONDUCT IN SPORT' overlaid. The passing grade/score is listed as '100%'.



ICYMI: Safer in Sports Day

August 8 was Safer in Sports Day. Read more about USA Swimming's Safe Sport program, the resources currently available, and where to go if you want to learn more at the link below.

[READ MORE](#)



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1 Olympic Plaza Colorado Springs, CO, 80909