

Wednesday, September 9th 1:00PM

Safe Sport Preventing Peer to Peer abuse by Britt Darwin-Looney, VP of Youth Development services of Praesiduim

Susan Wesner- USA Swimming Safe Sport director

USA swimming is seeing more reports of peer to peer related issues and inappropriate behavior between athletes.

USA Swimming is beginning to put into practice, goals of safety planning with involved/ specific clubs. They are trying to problem solve with the specific clubs because they do not want to label or ban kids from swimming.

They have found that most incidents occur in the bathroom during downtime and there is no type of scheduled activity.

Youth offenders are very different than adult offenders. A child typically does not go through a grooming process and they abuse when they are put into a situation when they are not monitored closely.

Top locations for abuse:

travel

locker rooms- changing clothes, no monitoring parking lot equipment room saunas transportation

Ways to monitor the group dynamic and cut down on potential situations:

Taking attendance every day

monitoring group dynamics

USA is suggesting that all clubs use zero tolerance policies. If clubs abide by zero tolerance, the policies can catch all poor behaviors and clubs a better opportunity for enforcement.

The bullying rule addresses both verbal and physical violations.

When working with juvenile offenders, we do not know the cause of why an incident occurs.

Most juvenile offenders commit other crimes as well. A staggering 40-50 % of child molestations are commitment from child to child.

Many offenders have turned to cyber bullying. Tools that athletes are using for bullying, hazing and sexualized behaviors include but are not limited to Instagram twitter tumbler ask fb

Conditions that are necessary for abuse to happen are:

access, privacy and control.

How to monitor the locker?

Adult should be standing in the locker room doorway so they can hear what is going on and someone from outside the locker room can see the coach/ adult.

Briefly walking through the locker room, breaking up privacy, or speaking into the locker room so athletes know that an adult is within range.

Split up the age groups in the locker room.

Some programs have decided to adopt policies that forbid any locker room usage.

Types Of Bullying

physical

verbal

nonverbal and relational

cyber bullying

Types of Hazing

Initiation

rituals

Four ways to prevent and detect

-Define Expectations

acceptable behaviors vs inappropriate behaviors

-Educate

topics to discuss with athletes

topics to discuss with adults

- Monitor Interactions

identify high risk activities and locations warning signs in individual behaviors warning signs in group dynamics monitor interactions

-Create a safe/ unanimous way for kids to report

How to respond to reports?

-respond quickly

-address problems with athletes immediately -discuss issues with adults -document areas of concern - communicate with parents

presentation can be found on line

Disabilities committee workshop

In the workshop, the committee members broke out each of the potential disabilities and had activities for everyone to experience what athletes who have each type of disability may go through on a regular basis.

They started with dyslexia and processing by using reading assignments. They had participants use wheelchair and crutches. They showed restricted use of hands for activities including writing. They had activities to limit sight and hearing while giving directions and navigating the room.

This was just a reminder to coaches that we may need to make adjustments in our workouts or the way we run workouts to accommodate for people with disabilities and show some compassion.

Central zone meeting

- A. open water
 - 1. club vs lsc event discussion
 - Following discussion it was voted to keep it as a LSC sponsored event
 - 2. open water clinic discussion one day vs two days
 - Following discussion it was suggested that the host separate the age group athletes from the senior athletes day and a half camp for the older kids one day for the younger kids no shark talk
 - 3. Bids
 - Ohio date Wednesday, June 25
 - Wisconsin dates June 7-8
 - B. Final item- A suggestion was made by Dave Anderson that we should develop a group to take a look at the central zone performance relative to the other zones recognition analysis plan
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Thursday, September 12

Make a Splash initiative

10 people drown every day

It is the second leading cause of death of children under the age of 14

Formal swimming lessons reduce the risk of drowning by 88%

Make a Splash Purpose is to:

increase participation

align partners

increase awareness

local partner program

provide community outreach and water safety education provide scholarship opportunities build bridges/ create relationships

600 local partners in 50 states

2 million lessons provided

\$2.6 million in grant funding to date

215,000 scholarship participants out of 29 million children that do not know how to swim

Increase awareness-water safety education increase participation- increase the number of the children in lessons increase revenue-financial support for scholarship opportunities and the expansion of resources make a splash suit from arena that can be purchased

Increase awareness so that parents do not say they 'just didn't know' and they end up losing their child.

Rowdy Gains- 4 times the number that drown have as many have a near drowning experience each day. 70% of children that die in a pool, the parents are there and lifeguards are watching. they are just distracted.

in Florida the doctors prescribe swimming lessons as drowning prevention

Community outreach ideas

Host a make a splash water safety day

Water safety presentations at elementary school or read a storybook host a swim-a-thon seek funding from local organizations partner with scout troops, boys and girls clubs, daycare, or local elementary schools

NDPA small steps to safe pools

watersmartbabies.org

They are now using pediatricians to prescribe swimming lessons as a part of the well check process in some states. The pediatricians would like families with children to learn aquatic safety skills to prevent drownings.

Diversity and Inclusion board meeting

They made a slight change to the wording below:

Code of conduct for protected groups

304.3 code of conduct for protected groups Discrimination in violation of the Amateur Sports Act which requires that USA Swimming must provide :-"an equal opportunity to athletes, coaches, trainer, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in the sport of swimming. Athletes must be allowed to participant and compete to the fullest extent allowed the Rules and Regulations.

discrimination against any member or participant on he basis of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, gender expression, genetics, mental or physical disability, or any other status protected by federal, state or local law, where applicable, is prohibited.

They discussed

LEAP and Club recognition

They assigned a task force to look at the diversity and inclusion initiatives regarding the leap.

November committee conference call deadline discussed that some LSC's have a name as their Diversity chair and the chair is inactive

Zone camps

Western Zone- diversity Coordinator and a committee each LSC put up \$.10 per swimmer in the LSC \$8000 for the western zone to get the camp up and running

Diversity and inclusion committee discussed the interpretation of the what really is diversity. Many LSC's keep referring to the racial connections of diversity instead of the inclusion of socio economic, ethnic.

Make people partially responsible for the cost in order to run effective/ high quality diversity events

Safe Sport Athlete Presentation

12&Up. Junior high school age and up

Always tone it back for younger athletes, use permission slips for training, and allow parents to sit in the back and observe.

USA swimming flier

USA swimming policies

online training for non athletes

online training for parents

online training for athletes

Coaches cannot go with kids to any social outings

Central Zone Meeting

Chuck Weilgus

5 things

Always thinking long term

Having a plan that you actually use

Focus on a few things and know what business you are in be flexible- to face challenges know where the money is

Know where it comes from and where it goes tell our story. Swimming has an incredible story. Taking the high road for the haters. It is a long term plan.

Friday, September 13

LSC Leadership Workshop- Sue Anderson

Planning for the future

Evaluate where you are

Strategic planning sessions

USA swimming has a consultant that will come in and evaluate the needs of your LSC change and growth

Can be difficult transformational change- do something big and different and invest in people

Clear policy
Job descriptions

Rules and regulations happen in the water policy is the dry side travel stipends, budget etc.

3 models of LSC governance

1. All volunteer
2. Staff that run an office and the rest volunteer
3. Executive director, staff and some volunteer

~5,000 swimmers in the LSC seems to be the magic number to be a more competitive LSC. This gives enough money to run the LSC and offer travel trips etc.

Top age group coach an award to an ASCA clinic or somewhere to further their education.

Diversity and Inclusion Workshop

Kathy Mendez talked about the Native American camp

Melissa Malen talked about the Minn diversity mini meets that they hosted in January

Jeff Commings

Double minority. African American gay athlete

R-11 they updated the groups to include in anti-discrimination.