

Safe Sport FAQ (parent/athlete)

This document highlights some of the infractions and questions that have been addressed in the last few months. This document does not supersede the policy set forth by Safe Sport and full adherence to the Safe Sport policy is still required. The overwhelming message in this policy is communication between adults and swimmers should be "**observable and interruptible**" by another adult. There should be no situations that exist that can't pass that test - on deck, in the locker room, by phone, outside of the pool area, etc. These rules protect the athletes as well as the adults involved with student athletes. Please direct additional questions or concerns to a Velocity Board Member or to a Velocity Coach.

- Who created this Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP) and who are they?
 - Safe Sport created this policy. Safe Sport is affiliated with USA Olympics and therefore USA swimming. Safe Sport's initiative is to recognize, reduce, and respond to misconduct (bullying, Physical/emotional/sexual misconduct, hazing) in sports.
- Who does this policy apply to and whom is affected by it?
 - EVERYONE involved in USA Swimming, including Velocity, is affected by this policy including:
 - Anyone 18 years old + (coaches, parents, timers, meet officials, volunteers) that interact with swimmers.
 - Anyone UNDER 18. Although minor swimmers are not responsible for adhering to the policy, adults are. However, it IS important for minors to understand the boundaries set forth by this policy.
- Can I help my child get a tec suit on for a meet in the locker room?
 - PUBLIC locker room or public bathroom
 - NO. If you are the only adult in the locker room.
 - YES. If another adult is present.
 - PRIVATE bathroom
 - YES. As long as it is just your swimmer and you.
- My child or I forgot the schedule for practice and it's 9 pm. Can we contact a coach for the schedule?
 - NO. Communication between the hours of 8 pm and 8 am is discouraged unless it's an emergency. Team meets are an exemption and do allow for after-hours communication.
- General Communication Guidance
 - Swimmer to Coach: Communication between an adult and minor should take place in a public format or with the guardian of the swimmer included in the communication. Please discourage your swimmer from sending text messages involving only the coach and the athlete. GroupMe is being utilized with some coaches. Since there IS another adult (coach) in the GroupMe chats, this is in compliance with the policy.
 - Ideally the team website is the source for all updates to the schedule.
 - Adult to adult communication is always preferred unless another adult is present in the communication with the swimmer.
- Can Applicable Adults ride alone in a vehicle with a minor athlete?
 - NO. Applicable Adults must not ride in a vehicle alone with an unrelated minor athlete, absent emergency circumstances, and must always have at least two minor athletes or another adult in the vehicle, unless agreed to in writing by the minor athlete's legal guardian.
- Can I, as a parent, use the locker room bathroom?
 - NO. Unless there is another adult in the locker room. Using the locker room bathroom should not be your first choice.