



MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICIES

USA Boccia Policy Submission Date: January 15th, 2021

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Scope	4
Part I: Education & Training Policy	7
Part II: Organizational Requirements for Education & Training and Prevention Policies	10
Part III: Required Policies for One-on-One Interactions	13
One-on-One Interaction Policy	13
Meetings and Training Sessions Policy	14
Athletic Training Modalities, Massages, and Rubdowns Policy	16
Locker Rooms and Changing Areas Policy	17
Electronic Communications Policy	19
Transportation Policy	21
Lodging Policy	22
Part IV: Recommended Policies for Keeping Young Athletes Safe	24
Terminology	25
Appendix	27

INTRODUCTION

USA Boccia, in partnership with the U.S. Center for SafeSport (the Center) is committed to building a sport community where participants can work and learn together in an atmosphere free of emotional, physical, and sexual misconduct.

Authority: prevention training and policies

Federal law authorizes the Center to address the risk of emotional, physical, and sexual abuse of amateur athletes in the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movements. *See [Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017](#)*. This policy is based on the recommendations and requirements of the Center.

Federal law requires that, at a minimum, national governing bodies and paralympic sports organizations *must offer and give consistent training related to the prevention of child abuse: (1) to all adult members who are in regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors and (2) subject to parental consent, to members who are minors*. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(2)(E). Federal law requires that these policies contain reasonable procedures to limit unobservable and uninterrupted one-on-one interactions between an amateur athlete, who is a minor, and an adult, who is not the minor's legal guardian, at facilities under the jurisdiction of organizations within the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Movement. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(2)(C).

General requirement

The USA Boccia Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention (MAAP) Policy must be reviewed and agreed to by all adult USA Boccia members, staff, interns, committee and board members and any non-member volunteers or sport assistants who have regular contact with or authority over amateur athletes who are minors.

Is the MAAPP Different from the SafeSport Code?

Yes. The [SafeSport Code](#) works alongside the MAAPP to prevent abuse. The MAAPP includes proactive prevention policies for organizations and individuals, while the SafeSport Code contains misconduct policies for individuals. However, violations of the MAAPP can violate the SafeSport Code, and violators can be sanctioned.

Terminology

For clarity, a list of common terms found through the policies have been defined on page 25.

SCOPE

The MAAPP Applies to “In-Program Contact” Within the Olympic & Paralympic Movement

The MAAPP is required for the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), National Governing Bodies (NGB), Local Affiliated Organizations (LAO), and Paralympic Sport Organizations (PSO) within the Olympic & Paralympic Movement (each an “Organization”).

Some policies impose requirements on USA Boccia at sanctioned events and facilities partially or fully under USA Boccia’s jurisdiction. For example, USA Boccia must monitor locker rooms at their facilities and sanctioned events. Other policies impose certain requirements on Adult Participants under USA Boccia’s jurisdiction when the Adult Participant is having “In-Program Contact.” For example, Adult Participants cannot have one-on-one electronic communications with Minor Athletes that they coach (exceptions apply, please see electronic communications policy on page 19).

Who is a Minor Athlete?

A **Minor Athlete** is an amateur athlete under 18 years of age who participates in, or participated within the previous 12 months in, an event, program, activity, or competition that is part of, or partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USA Boccia.

What is Partial or Full Jurisdiction?

Partial or Full Jurisdiction includes any sanctioned event (including all travel and lodging in connection with the event) by USA Boccia, or any facility that USA Boccia owns, leases, or rents for practice, training, or competition.

Who is an Adult Participant?

An **Adult Participant** is any adult (18 years of age or older) who is:

1. A member of USA Boccia;
2. An employee, intern or, board or committee member of USA Boccia;
3. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Boccia;
4. Authorized, approved, or appointed by USA Boccia to have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes.¹

¹ This may include volunteers, sport assistants, medical staff, trainers, chaperones, monitors, contract personnel, officials, judges, and any other individual who meets the Adult Participant definition. Appendix A provides job descriptions of USA Boccia roles and clarifies whether the MAAPP applies to that individual.

The following categories are included in the USA Boccia definition of Adult Participants: Adult members, employees & interns, committee & board members, coaches, classifiers, officials, contract personnel (based on their role), medical staff and volunteers. The specific volunteer roles and Adult Participant requirements can be found in Appendix A.

What is In-Program Contact?

In-Program Contact includes sanctioned events and facilities, but it also applies more broadly to sport-related interactions. **The MAAPP defines “In-Program Contact” as:**

Any contact (including communications, interactions, or activities) between an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) related to participation in sport.

Examples of in-program contact include, but are not limited to: competition, practices, camps/clinics, training/instructional sessions, pre/post game meals or outings, team travel, review of game film, team- or sport-related relationship building activities, celebrations, award ceremonies, banquets, team- or sport-related fundraising or community service, sport education, or competition site visits.

Does the MAAPP Have Any Exceptions?

Yes. The MAAPP was written with certain appropriate exceptions in mind. Exceptions are addressed in each policy and include:

1. A Close-in-Age Exception

This exception applies to certain policies and allows for In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete if:

- a. The Adult Participant has no authority over the Minor Athlete; and
- b. The Adult Participant is not more than four years older than the Minor Athlete.

Note: This exception is different than the close-in-age exception in the SafeSport Code pertaining to misconduct.

2. Exceptions for Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants Working with a Minor Athlete

3. Exceptions for Dual Relationships

This exception applies to certain policies when the Adult Participant has a dual role or

relationship with a Minor Athlete. The exception requires written consent of the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian at least annually.

Many of the exceptions require parent/guardian consent. The Center recommends parents take training on child abuse prevention before providing consent under these policies. The Center offers a free Parent Course at www.safesporttrained.org.

Am I required to take SafeSport Training?

Certain Adult Participants within the Olympic & Paralympic Movement who have (i) regular contact with Minor Athletes, (ii) authority over Minor Athletes, or (iii) are employees or board members of USA Boccia, are required to take training. The summary of Adult Participants who are required to take training can be found in Appendix A of this policy and the specific training requirements can be found in Part I. If you have questions or need clarification on whether you are required to complete SafeSport training, please email usaboccia@gmail.com.

**PART I
EDUCATION & TRAINING POLICY**

A. Mandatory Child Abuse Prevention Training for Adult Participants

1. Adult Participants Required to Complete Training

- a. The following Adult Participants (role summary included below) must complete the *SafeSport Trained Core* either through the Center’s online training or the Center’s approved, in-person training:
 - i. Adult Participants who have regular contact with any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor;
 - ii. Adult Participants who have authority over any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor;
 - iii. Adult Participants who are an employee, intern or, committee or board member of USA Boccia.
- b. Adult Participants who are medical providers, including athletic trainers and nurses, required to take training under Section (a) can take the Health Professionals Course in lieu of the *SafeSport Trained Core*.

Adult Participant Roles Required to Complete Training
Adult members (18 years of age or older) of USA Boccia
Employees or Interns of USA Boccia
Board or committee members of USA Boccia
Coaches
Classifiers
Referees/Officials
Sport assistants appointed by USA Boccia
Medical staff, including nurses and trainers – health professionals course in lieu of the Core training
Chaperones or monitors appointed by USA Boccia
Contract personnel – Based on Role

Host Organizer
Competition Manager
Linesperson
Head Linesperson
Call Room Staff
Head Referee
Technical Delegate
Referees
Classifiers

2. Timing of Training

Adult Participants must complete this training:

- a. Before regular contact with an amateur athlete who is a minor begins; **and**
- b. Within the first 45 days of either initial membership or upon beginning a new role subjecting the adult to this policy.

3. Refresher Training

The above listed Adult Participants must complete a refresher course on an annual basis, beginning the calendar year after completing the *SafeSport Trained Core*. The refresher course must be completed before the calendar date of which the core training was completed the previous year (For example: if the core training was taken on March 1st, 2020 then the refresher must be taken prior to March 1st, 2021). Every four years, Adult Participants will complete the *SafeSport Trained Core* training. Medical providers can take the Health Professionals Course in lieu of the *SafeSport Trained Core* and are required to take the refresher courses on an annual basis if they meet the criteria for A (1).

B. Minor Athlete Training Must Be Offered

1. USA Boccia, on an annual basis, must offer and, subject to parental consent, give training to Minor Athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.

2. The Center offers youth courses, located at www.safesporttrained.org, that meet this requirement.

C. Parent Training Must Be Offered

1. USA Boccia on an annual basis, must offer training to parents on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
2. The Center offers a parent course, located at www.safesporttrained.org, that meets this requirement.

D. Optional Training

1. Adult Participants serving in a volunteer capacity, who will not have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes, should take the Center's brief Volunteer Course (or *SafeSport Trained Core*) before engaging or interacting with any Minor Athlete(s).
2. USA Boccia may provide training *in addition to* the *SafeSport Trained Core*, although they cannot refer to this training as "SafeSport" training. **Training other than the *SafeSport Trained Core* or Refresher does not satisfy this policy.**
3. Parents of Minor Athletes are provided free online access to the Center's parent course and are encouraged to take the training.

E. Exemptions and Accommodations

1. Exemptions from this Education & Training Policy may be made on a case-by-case basis. Requests may be made directly to the U.S. Center for SafeSport at exemptions@safesport.org.
2. The Center will work with USA Boccia on appropriate accommodations for persons with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency to satisfy these training requirements. USA Boccia must provide reasonable accommodations and track any exemptions for individuals with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency.

PART II

ORGANIZATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATION & TRAINING AND PREVENTION POLICIES

All NGBs, PSOs, LAOs, and the USOPC (the “Organization”) must implement proactive policies designed to prevent abuse. These organizational requirements are described below and are intended to provide a clear understanding of the criteria USA Boccia must follow as an organization under the jurisdiction of the Center.

A. Organizational Requirements for Education & Training

1. USA Boccia must track whether Adult Participants under its jurisdiction complete the required training listed in Part I.
2. USA Boccia must, on an annual basis, offer and, subject to parental consent, give training to Minor Athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
 - a. For training to Minor Athletes, USA Boccia must track a description of the training and how the training was offered and provided to Minor Athletes.
 - b. USA Boccia is not required to track individual course completions of Minor Athletes.
3. USA Boccia must, on an annual basis, offer training to parents on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.

B. Required Prevention Policies and Implementation

1. USA Boccia must develop minor athlete abuse prevention policies that contain the mandatory components of the Center’s model policies in Part III. These model policies cover:
 - a. One-on-one interactions
 - b. Meetings and training sessions
 - c. Athletic training modalities, massages, and rubdowns
 - d. Locker rooms and changing areas
 - e. Electronic communications
 - f. Transportation
 - g. Lodging

2. The policies must be approved by the Center as described in subsection (C) below. The policies may include the recommended components in Part III and the recommended policies in Part IV. Given the uniqueness of each sport, however, some recommended components or policies may not be feasible or appropriate. An Organization may choose to implement stricter standards than the model policies.
3. Each NGB, PSO, and USOPC must also require that its LAOs implement these policies within each LAO. USA Boccia does not currently have LAOs.
4. USA Boccia must implement these policies for all In-Program Contact.
 - a. At sanctioned events and facilities partially or fully under its jurisdiction, USA Boccia must take steps to ensure the policies are implemented and followed.
 - b. For In-Program Contact that occurs outside a USA Boccia sanctioned event or facilities, implementing these policies means:
 - i. Communicating the policies to individuals under its jurisdiction;
 - ii. Establishing a reporting mechanism for violations of the policies;
 - iii. Investigating and enforcing violations of the policies.
5. USA Boccia must have a reporting mechanism to accept reports that an Adult Participant is violating USA Boccia's minor athlete abuse prevention policies. USA Boccia must appropriately investigate and resolve any reports received, unless the violation is reported to the Center and it exercises jurisdiction over the report. This requirement is in addition to requirements to report abuse under the SafeSport Code.

C. Policy Approval and Submission Process

1. USA Boccia may adopt the MAAPP as-is or adapt it to fit their needs. Regardless, each Organization must submit their policies to the Center at compliance@safesport.org for review and approval by January 31, 2021. The Center will approve, approve with modifications, or deny the policies. If the Center denies the proposed policy, the mandatory components of Part III become the default policy until the Center approves the policy.
2. USA Boccia must require their LAOs to incorporate the mandatory components of Part III. NGBs may require that their LAOs implement the NGB's policies, which may be more stringent than the policies in Part III.
3. USA Boccia may, in its discretion, require its National Member Organizations (NMO) to implement these policies.

- An NGB that chooses to require its NMOs to implement the Education & Training Policy must obtain advanced, written approval from the Center to expand the training access to additional persons. Requests must be submitted to ngbservices@safesport.org.
4. The mandatory components of Part III will serve as the default policy for any organization that fails to develop its own policy as required by this section.

PART III

REQUIRED POLICIES FOR ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

The U.S. Center for SafeSport recognizes that youth-adult relationships can be healthy and valuable for development. Policies on one-on-one interactions protect children while allowing for these beneficial relationships. As child sexual abuse is often perpetrated in isolated, one-on-one situations, it is critical that organizations limit such interactions between youth and adults and implement programs that reduce the risk of sexual abuse.

ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

1. Observable and Interruptible
 - a. All one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be observable and interruptible, except in emergency circumstances. If an emergency occurs the incident should be reported in writing to USA Boccia within 24 hours.
 - b. The exceptions below may apply to specific sections of the policy, and if the exceptions do apply, they are listed in that section. These exceptions also apply to all one-on-one In-Program Contact not specifically addressed in other policies:
 - i. When a Dual Relationship exists; or
 - ii. When the Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
 - iii. If a Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care or Sport Assistant, and:
 - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Boccia for the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
 - (2) the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
 - (3) the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with USA Boccia's screening policy; or
 - iv. In other circumstances specifically addressed in this policy that allow for certain one-on-one interactions if USA Boccia receives parent/ guardian consent.

MEETINGS AND TRAINING SESSIONS

1. Observable and Interruptible

Adult Participants must follow the one-on-one interaction policy in all meetings and training sessions where Minor Athlete(s) are present.

2. Individual Training Sessions

a. One-on-one, In-Program, individual training sessions must be observable and interruptible except if:

- i. A Dual Relationship exists; or
- ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
- iii. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care or Sport Assistant, and:
 - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Boccia for the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
 - (2) the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
 - (3) the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with USA Boccia's screening policy.

b. The Adult Participant providing the individual training session must receive advance, written consent from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian at least annually, which can be withdrawn at any time; and

c. Parents/guardians must be allowed to observe the individual training session.

3. Meetings with licensed mental health care professionals and health care providers (other than athletic trainers²)

If a licensed mental health care professional or licensed health care provider meets one-on-one with a Minor Athlete at a sanctioned event or a facility, which is partially or fully under USA Boccia's jurisdiction, the meeting must be observable and interruptible except:

- a. If the door remains unlocked; and
- b. Another adult is present at the facility and notified that a meeting is occurring, although the Minor Athlete's identity needs not be disclosed; and
- c. USA Boccia is notified that the provider will be meeting with a Minor Athlete; and
- d. The provider obtains consent consistent with applicable laws and ethical standards, which can be withdrawn at any time.

² Athletic trainers who are covered under these policies must follow the "Athletic Training Modalities, Massages, and Rubdowns" policy.

4. Parent Training

Parents/guardians will be offered the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention on an annual basis.

ATHLETIC TRAINING MODALITIES, MESSAGES, AND RUBDOWNS

1. Athletic training modalities, massage, or rubdown

All In-Program athletic training, massages, or rubdowns of a Minor Athlete must:

- a. Be observable and interruptible; and
 - b. Have another Adult Participant physically present for the athletic training modality, massage, or rubdown; and
 - c. Have documented consent as explained in subsection (2) below; and
 - d. To be performed with the Minor Athlete fully or partially clothed, ensuring that the breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals are always covered; and
 - e. When possible, techniques should be used to reduce physical touch of Minor Athletes.
 - f. Allow parents/guardians in the room as an observer, except for competition or training venues that limit credentialing.
 - g. Coaches, regardless of whether they are licensed massage therapists, should not massage Minor Athletes.
- ### 2. Consent
- a. Providers of athletic training modalities, massages, and rubdowns or USA Boccia, when applicable, must obtain consent at least annually from Minor Athletes' parents/guardians before providing any athletic training modalities, massages, or rubdowns.
 - b. Minor Athletes or their parents/guardians can withdraw consent at any time.
- ### 3. Parent Training
- Parents/guardians will be offered the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention on an annual basis.

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS

1. Observable and Interruptible

Adult Participants must ensure that all In-Program Contact with Minor Athlete(s) in a locker room, changing area, or similar space where Minor Athlete(s) are present is observable and interruptible, except if:

- a. A Dual Relationship exists; or
- b. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
- c. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care or Sport Assistant and:
 - i. the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Boccia for the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
 - ii. the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
 - iii. the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with USA Boccia's screening policy.

2. Conduct in Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces

- a. No Adult Participant or Minor Athlete can use the photographic or video recording capabilities of any device in locker rooms, changing areas, or any other area designated as a place for changing clothes or undressing.
- b. Adult Participants must not change clothes or behave in a manner that intentionally or recklessly exposes their breasts, buttocks, groins, or genitals to a Minor Athlete.
- c. Adult Participants must not shower with Minor Athletes unless:
 - i. The Adult Participant meets the Close-in-Age Exception; or
 - ii. The shower is part of a pre- or post-activity rinse while wearing swimwear.
- d. Parents/guardians may request in writing that their Minor Athlete(s) not change or shower with Adult Participant(s) during In-Program Contact. USA Boccia and the Adult Participant(s) must abide by this request.

3. Media and Championship Celebrations in Locker Rooms

USA Boccia may permit recording or photography in locker rooms for the purpose of highlighting a sport or athletic accomplishment if:

- i. Parent/legal guardian consent has been obtained; and
- ii. USA Boccia approves the specific instance of recording or photography; and
- iii. Two or more Adult Participants are present; and
- iv. Everyone is fully clothed.

USA Boccia: Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies

4. Personal Care or Sport Assistants

Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistants are permitted to be with and assist Minor Athlete(s) in locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces where other Minor Athletes are present, if they meet the requirements in subsection (1)(a)(iii) above.

5. Availability and Monitoring of Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces

- a. USA Boccia must provide a private or semi-private place for Minor Athletes that need to change clothes or undress at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under USA Boccia's jurisdiction.
- b. USA Boccia must monitor the use of locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces to ensure compliance with these policies at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under USA Boccia's jurisdiction.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS³

1. Open and Transparent

- a. All one-on-one electronic communications between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be Open and Transparent except:
 - i. When a Dual Relationship exists; or
 - ii. When the Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
 - iii. If a Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care or Sport Assistant and:
 - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Boccia for the Adult Participant Personal or Sport Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
 - (2) the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
 - (3) the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with USA Boccia's screening policy.
- b. Open and Transparent means that the Adult Participant copies or includes the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian, another adult family member of the Minor Athlete, or another Adult Participant.
 - If a Minor Athlete communicates with the Adult Participant first, the Adult Participant must follow this policy if the Adult Participant responds.
- c. Only platforms that allow for Open and Transparent communication may be used to communicate with Minor Athletes.

2. Team Communication

When an Adult Participant communicates electronically to the entire team or any number of Minor Athletes on the team, the Adult Participant must copy or include another Adult Participant or the Minor Athletes' parents/guardians.

3. Content

All electronic communication originating from an Adult Participant(s) to a Minor Athlete(s) must be professional in nature unless an exception in (1)(a) exists.

³ Electronic communications include, but are not limited to phone calls, videoconferencing, video coaching, texting, and social media.

4. Requests to discontinue

Parents/guardians may request in writing that USA Boccia or an Adult Participant subject to this policy not contact their Minor Athlete through any form of electronic communication. USA Boccia and the Adult Participant must abide by any request to discontinue, absent emergency circumstances.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Transportation

- a. An Adult Participant cannot transport a Minor Athlete one-on-one during In-Program travel, except if:
 - i. A Dual Relationship exists; or
 - ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies; or
 - iii. A Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care or Sport Assistant and:
 - (1) the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Boccia for the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and
 - (2) the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
 - (3) the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with USA Boccia's screening policy; or
 - iv. The Adult Participant has advance, written consent to transport the Minor Athlete one-on-one obtained at least annually from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian.
- b. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.
- c. An Adult Participant meets the In-Program transportation requirements if the Adult Participant is accompanied by another Adult Participant or at least two minors.
- d. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian is required for all transportation sanctioned by USA Boccia at least annually.

2. Parent Training

Parents/guardians will be offered the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention on an annual basis.

LODGING

1. Hotel Rooms and Other Sleeping Arrangements

- a. All In-Program Contact at a hotel or lodging site between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete, must be observable and interruptible, and an Adult Participant cannot share a hotel room or otherwise sleep in the same room with a Minor Athlete(s), except if:
 - i. A Dual Relationship Exists, and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided USA Boccia with advance, written consent for the lodging arrangement;
 - ii. The Close-in-Age Exception applies, and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided USA Boccia with advance, written consent for the lodging arrangement; or
 - iii. The Minor Athlete needs a Personal Care or Sport Assistant, and:
 - (1) The Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided advance, written consent to USA Boccia for the Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete and for the lodging arrangement;
 - (2) The Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and
 - (3) The Adult Participant Personal Care or Sport Assistant has complied with USA Boccia's screening policy.
- b. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian must be obtained for all In-Program lodging at least annually.

2. Monitoring or Room Checks During In-Program Travel

If USA Boccia or team representative performs room checks during In-Program lodging, the one-on-one interaction policy must be followed and at least two adults must be present for the room checks.

3. Additional Requirements for Lodging Authorized or Funded by USA Boccia

- a. Adult Participants traveling with USA Boccia must agree to and sign USA Boccia's lodging policy at least annually.
- b. Adult Participants that travel overnight with Minor Athlete(s) are assumed to have Authority over Minor Athlete(s) and thus must comply with the Center's Education & Training Policy.

4. Parent Training

Parents/guardians will be offered the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention on an annual basis.

PART IV

RECOMMENDED POLICIES FOR KEEPING YOUNG ATHLETES SAFE

A. Out-of-Program Contact

Adult Participants, who do not meet the Close-in-Age Exception nor have a Dual Relationship with a Minor Athlete, should not have out-of-program contact with Minor Athlete(s) without legal/parent guardian consent, even if the out-of-program contact is not one-on-one.

B. Gifting

1. Adult Participants, who do not meet the Close-in-Age Exception nor have a Dual Relationship with a Minor Athlete, should not give personal gifts to Minor Athlete(s).
2. Gifts that are equally distributed to all athletes and serve a motivational or education purpose are permitted.

C. Photography/Video

1. Adult Participants should not publicly share or post photos or videos of Minor Athlete(s) if the Adult Participant has not obtained the Parent/Guardian and Minor Athlete's consent.

TERMINOLOGY

Adult Participant: Any adult (18 years of age or older) who is:

- a. A member of USA Boccia
- b. An employee, intern, or board or committee member of USA Boccia;
- c. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Boccia
- d. Authorized, approved, or appointed by USA Boccia to have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes.⁴

Amateur Athlete: An athlete who meets the eligibility standards established by the National Governing Body or Paralympic sports organization for the sport in which the athlete competes.

Authority: When one person's position over another person is such that, based on the totality of the circumstances, they have the power or right to direct, control, give orders to, or make decisions for that person. Also see the Power Imbalance definition in the SafeSport Code.⁵

Close-in-Age Exception: An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant does not have authority over a Minor Athlete *and* is not more than four years older than the Minor Athlete (e.g., a 19-year-old and a 16-year-old). Note: this exception *only* applies within the prevention policies and *not* regarding conduct defined in the SafeSport Code.

Dual Relationships: An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant has a dual role or relationship with a Minor Athlete and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent at least annually authorizing the exception.

In-Program Contact: Any contact (including communications, interactions, or activities) between an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) related to participation in sport.

Examples of In-Program Contact include, but are not limited to: competition, practices, camps/clinics, training/instructional sessions, pre/post game meals or outings, team travel, review of game film, team- or sport-related relationship building activities, celebrations, award ceremonies, banquets, team- or sport-related fundraising or community service, sport education, or competition site visits.

⁴ This may include volunteers, sport assistants, medical staff, trainers, chaperones, monitors, contract personnel, officials, judges, and any other individual who meets the Adult Participant definition.

⁵ Specific roles and MAAPP distinction can be found in Appendix A.

Minor Athlete: An Amateur Athlete under 18 years of age who participates in, or participated within the previous 12 months in, an event, program, activity, or competition that is part of, or partially or fully under the jurisdiction of, an NGB, PSO, USOPC, or LAO.

Partial or Full Jurisdiction: Includes any sanctioned event (including all travel and lodging in connection with the event) by the NGB, PSO, USOPC, or LAO, or any facility that the NGB, PSO, USOPC, or LAO owns, leases, or rents for practice, training or competition.

National Governing Body (NGB): A U.S. Olympic National Governing Body, Pan American Sport Organization, or Paralympic Sport Organization recognized by the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. §§ 220501, et seq. This definition shall also apply to the USOPC, or other sports entity approved by the USOPC, when they have assumed responsibility for the management or governance of a sport included on the program of the Olympic, Paralympic, or Pan-American Games.

Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant: An Adult Participant who assists an athlete requiring help with activities of daily living (ADL) and preparation for athletic participation. This support can be provided by a Guide for Blind or visually impaired athletes or can include assistance with transfer, dressing, showering, medication administration, and toileting. Personal Care Assistants are different for every athlete and should be individualized to fit their specific needs. When assisting a Minor Athlete, Adult Participant PCAs must be authorized by the athlete's parent/guardian.

Paralympic Sport Organization (PSO): an amateur sports organization recognized and certified as an NGB by the USOPC.

Regular Contact: Ongoing interactions (more than two USA Boccia events; including camps, courses, tournaments, etc.) during a 12-month period wherein an Adult Participant is in a role of direct and active engagement with any Minor Athlete(s).⁶

U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC): A federally chartered nonprofit corporation that serves as the National Olympic Committee and National Paralympic Committee for the United States. 30625447

⁶ Specific roles and MAAPP distinction can be found in Appendix A.

Appendix A

Adult Participants – USA Boccia

Adult Participant Role – Must Follow MAAPP	Regular Contact = Training	Authority = Training
Adult members (18 years of age or older) of USA Boccia – SafeSport Training is a requirement for all Adult USA Boccia Members regardless of regular contact or authority status		
Employees or Interns of USA Boccia		X
Board or committee members of USA Boccia		X
Coaches	X	X
Classifiers		X
Referees/Officials	X	X
Sport assistants appointed by USA Boccia	X	X
Medical staff and trainers	X	X
Chaperones or monitors appointed by USA Boccia	X	X
Contract personnel - will be determined prior to the start of the contract with the contract role will have Regular Contact or Authority		

Volunteer Roles – Must Follow MAAPP	Regular Contact = Training	Authority = Training
Host Organizer		X
Competition Manager		X
Registration/Hospitality		

Lunch Coordinator & Volunteers		
Guard at Classifier		
Guard at Equipment Check		
Linesperson		X
Timers		
Head Timer		
Head Linesperson		X
Call Room Staff	X	
Nurse– Health Professions course may be taken in lieu of the Core training	X	X
Head Referee		X
Technical Delegate		X
Referees		X
Classifiers	X	X

Boccia Regular Contact Definition: **Regular Contact:** Ongoing interactions (more than two USA Boccia events; including camps, courses, tournaments, etc.) during a 12-month period wherein an Adult Participant is in a role of direct and active engagement with any Minor Athlete(s).