

## **Waukesha County Youth Hockey Association Safe Sport Mandatory Reporter Policy**

### **Purpose:**

To create the greatest level of protection possible for our players and organization surrounding the new USA Hockey and SafeSport requirements for immediate and mandatory reporting of Child Abuse or Sexual Misconduct.

### **Scope:**

This policy will apply to all parents, guardians, volunteers, coaches, and players within WCYHA.

### **Overview and Background:**

#### Safe Sport Program Overview

The safety of its participants is of paramount importance to Waukesha County Youth Hockey Association (“WCYHA”) and USA Hockey (“USAH”). This includes not only on-ice safety, but also off-ice safety in any part of USA Hockey’s programs. WCYHA, in alignment with USAH, has ZERO TOLERANCE for abuse and misconduct.

USA Hockey Safe Sport is a program focused on the organization’s off-ice safety efforts. The USA Hockey Safe Sport Handbook addresses the following types of abuse and misconduct and sets forth policies surrounding boundaries for appropriate and inappropriate conduct:

- Sexual Misconduct and Child Abuse
- Physical Misconduct
- Emotional Misconduct
- Bullying
- Threats
- Harassment
- Hazing
- Abuse of Process & Other Misconduct

Other policies included address areas where misconduct can occur and are intended to reduce the risk of potential abuse, including:

- One-on-one interactions
- Locker rooms
- Athletic training modalities
- Social media and electronic communications
- Transportation/Lodging
- Education and awareness training
- Screening and background check program

- Reporting of concerns of abuse
- Responding to abuse and other misconduct

#### Monitoring and Supervision of the Safe Sport Program:

A USA Hockey member or other person under the jurisdiction of USAH who (1) violates any of the Safe Sport policies or (2) fails to consent to, and pass, a screening and background check in compliance with the Screening and Background Check Program, may be denied eligibility within any USA Hockey program and is subject to appropriate disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension, permanent suspension, and/or referral to law enforcement authorities.

As the national governing body for ice hockey in the United States, USA Hockey has delegated the jurisdiction and authority to the U.S. Center for Safe Sport (“USCSS”) to (1) investigate all reports or allegations of sexual abuse or misconduct (as referenced in the USA Hockey Safe Sport Program Handbook and defined by the USSCS), (2) issue any interim suspension or measures pending conclusion of the investigation, (3) make recommendations of sanctions or disciplinary action as a result of such investigation, and (4) adjudicate such matter.

New for the 2023-2024 Season, USA Hockey and Safe Sport have strengthened the expectations surrounding Child and/or Sexual abuse as follows:

#### Reports to U.S. Center for SafeSport

If an Adult Participant reasonably suspects that an incident(s) of Child Abuse or Sexual Misconduct has occurred, they must immediately report the incident(s) to the Center as well as applicable law enforcement authorities. Reports to the Center may be made by (1) completing an online report to the Center at [www.uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern/](http://www.uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern/) or by (2) calling 833-587-7233.

#### Reports to USA Hockey

Reports of any allegation of misconduct or other inappropriate behavior that may violate Safe Sport Policies other than Sexual Misconduct or Child Abuse, should be made immediately to USA Hockey or the applicable Affiliate Safe Sport Coordinator, or may also be made to the Center. Reports to USA Hockey may be made by: (1) clicking on the “Report to USA Hockey” link on the USA Hockey Safe Sport Program webpage ([www.usahockey.com/makingareport](http://www.usahockey.com/makingareport)), (2) emailing to [usahockeysafesport@usahockey.org](mailto:usahockeysafesport@usahockey.org), or (3) calling 800-888-4656. The USA Hockey Safe Sport Program webpage contains contact information for each Affiliate Safe Sport Coordinator.

For the complete USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook, visit <https://www.usahockey.com/safesportprogram>

## Policy:

Effective for the 2023-2024 season and moving forward, WCYHA will require all players within WCYHA to have at least one parent or guardian:

1. Register with USA Hockey as a volunteer,
2. Become safe sport certified
3. Understand and abide by the following procedure any time a suspected case of child abuse, sexual misconduct, or any other incident of misconduct / other inappropriate behavior takes place.

## Procedures:

By November 1<sup>st</sup> each year, each player must have one parent or guardian who has completed the following:

- 1) Registered with USA Hockey as a Volunteer
- 2) Completed the SafeSport training module
- 3) Register with WCYHA as a Volunteer

**Note: Any player whose parent(s)/guardian(s) are not registered with USA Hockey and Safesport trained by November 1<sup>st</sup> will be unable to participate in any on-ice activities until completed and recognized within the USA Hockey portal.**

Any time there is a suspected Case of Child Abuse or Sexual Misconduct:

- 1) Report the incident to local law enforcement
- 2) Report the Incident Immediately (within 24 hours) to USA Center for SafeSport by either method
  - a. <https://uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern/>
  - b. Calling 833-587-7233
- 3) After 1 and 2 have taken place, report the incident to the following within WCYHA
  - a. President
  - b. VP Off Ice
  - c. VP On Ice
  - d. WCYHA SafeSport Coordinator (currently the President)
  - e. Appropriate Level Director

Any time there is a suspected case of other misconduct or inappropriate behavior one of the following steps must take place:

- Option 1:
  - Report the incident to the following within WCYHA
    - President
    - VP Off Ice
    - VP On Ice
    - WCYHA SafeSport Coordinator (currently the President)
    - Appropriate Level Director

- Option 2:
  - Report via one of the following methods
    - Clicking on the “Report to USA Hockey” link on the USA Hockey Safe Sport Program webpage ([www.usahockey.com/makingareport](http://www.usahockey.com/makingareport))
    - Emailing to [usahockeysafesport@usahockey.org](mailto:usahockeysafesport@usahockey.org)
    - Calling 800-888-4656