

Eden Prairie Volleyball Association Abuse Management Policy

The Eden Prairie Volleyball Association (EPVA) is committed to building a sport community where participants can work and learn together in an atmosphere free of emotional, physical, and sexual misconduct. To this end, EPVA will adhere to the U.S. Center for SafeSport Minor Athletic Abuse Prevention Policies, which can be found here: <https://uscenterforsafesport.org>

Applicable policies cover:

1. Education and Training
2. Prevention
 - a. One-on-One Interactions, including meetings and individual training sessions
 - b. Massages and rubdowns/athletic training modalities
 - c. Locker rooms and changing areas
 - d. Social media and electronic communications
 - e. Local travel
 - f. Team travel.

1. EDUCATION & TRAINING POLICY

A. Adults Required to Complete Mandatory Training

The following adults shall complete training concerning child abuse prevention:

- Adult members of EPVA who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors
- An adult authorized by EPVA to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor
- Adult staff and board members of EPVA

(Collectively “Applicable Adults” for purposes of this policy.)

To satisfy the training obligations, EPVA will adhere to parts A.1, A.2, and B, below, of this Education & Training Policy.

1. Core Center for SafeSport Training

The above listed adults are required to complete training concerning child abuse prevention, comprised of the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s Core Center for SafeSport Training

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

Training other than the Core Center for SafeSport Training does not satisfy this policy.

2. Refresher Course(s)

A refresher course is required on an annual basis for applicable adults who are still serving in the capacity noted above prior to the start of each EPVA fiscal year

B. Minor Athletes

EPVA, subject to parental consent, will annually make available training to members who are minors regarding prevention and reporting of child abuse. EPVA will track:

- A description of the training(s);
- The date the training(s) was distributed; and
- A description of how the training(s) was offered and given.

2. PREVENTION POLICIES

The majority of child sexual abuse is perpetrated in isolated, one-on-one situations. By reducing such interactions between children and adults, programs reduce the risk of child sexual abuse. However, one-on-one time with trusted adults is also healthy and valuable for a child. Policies concerning one-on-one interactions protect children while allowing for these beneficial relationships.

A. One-on-One Interactions

a. Mandatory Components

i. Application

1. This policy shall apply to:

- a. Adult members at a facility that is either partially or fully under the jurisdiction of EPVA;
- b. Adult members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors;
- c. Any adult authorized by EPVA to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
- d. Adult staff and board members of EPVA.

(Collectively "Applicable Adult" for the purposes of this policy.)

ii. Observable and interruptible

1. One-on-one interactions between a minor athlete and an Applicable Adult (who is not the minor's legal guardian) at a facility partially or fully under our jurisdiction are permitted if they occur at an observable and interruptible distance by another adult.
2. One-on-one interactions between minor athletes and an Applicable Adult (who is not the minor's legal guardian) at a facility partially or fully under our jurisdiction are prohibited, except in the circumstances described in subpart d of this section and under emergency circumstances.

iii. Meetings

1. Meetings between Applicable Adults and minor athletes at a facility partially or fully under our jurisdiction may only occur if another adult is present, except under emergency circumstances. Such meetings must occur where interactions can be easily observed and at an interruptible distance from another adult.
2. If a one-on-one meeting takes place in an office at a facility partially or fully under our jurisdiction, the door to the office must remain unlocked and open. If available, it will occur in an office that has windows, with the windows, blinds, and/or curtains remaining open during the meeting.

iv. Meetings with mental health care professionals and health care providers

1. If a mental health care professional and/or health care provider meets with minor athletes at a facility partially or fully under our jurisdiction, a closed-door meeting may be permitted to protect patient privacy provided that: (1) the door remains unlocked; (2) another adult is present at the facility; (3) the other adult is advised that a closed-door meeting is occurring; and (4) written legal guardian consent is obtained in advance by the mental health care professional and/or health care provider, with a copy provided to our organization.

v. Individual training sessions

1. Individual training sessions between Applicable Adults and minor athletes are permitted at a facility partially or fully under our jurisdiction if the training session is observable and interruptible by another adult. It is the responsibility of the Applicable Adult to obtain the written permission of the minor's legal guardian in advance of the individual training session if the individual training session is not observable and interruptible by another adult. Permission for individual training

sessions must be obtained at least every six months. Parents, guardians, and other caretakers must be allowed to observe the training session.

B. Massages and Rubdowns/Athletic Training Modalities

a. **Mandatory Component** – *EPVA does not provide any of these services, but this section has been left in the policy because the section is mandatory within SafeSport.*

i. Application

1. This policy shall apply to:

- a. Adult members at a facility that is either partially or fully under the jurisdiction of EPVA;
- b. Adult members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors;
- c. Any adult authorized by EPVA to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
- d. Adult staff and board members of EPVA.

(Collectively “Applicable Adult” for the purposes of this policy.)

ii. Massage or rubdown/athletic training modality

1. Any massage or rubdown/athletic training modality performed at a facility or a training or competition venue must be conducted in an open and interruptible location. Any massage of a minor athlete must be done with at least one other adult present and must never be done with only the minor athlete and the person performing the massage or rubdown/athletic training modality in the room.

b. **Recommended Component** – If EPVA ever offers these services in the future, the written consent component should be used.

i. Written consent

1. Written consent by a legal guardian shall be provided before providing each massage or rubdown/athletic training modality on a minor athlete. Parents must be permitted to be in the room as an observer.

C. Locker Rooms and Changing Areas

a. **Mandatory Components** – *EPVA does not provide locker rooms or changing areas, but this section has been left in the policy because the section is mandatory within SafeSport.*

i. Application

1. This policy shall apply to:

- a. Adult members at a facility that is either partially or fully under the jurisdiction of EPVA;
- b. Adult members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors;
- c. Any adult authorized by EPVA to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
- d. Adult staff and board members of EPVA.

(Collectively “Applicable Adult” for the purposes of this policy.)

ii. Non-exclusive facility

1. If our organization uses a facility not fully under our jurisdiction (for, e.g., training or competition or similar events) and the facility is used by multiple constituents, Applicable Adults in categories 1 through 4 are nonetheless required to adhere to the rules set forth herein.

iii. Use of recording devices

1. Use of any device’s (including a cell phone’s) recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras in locker rooms, changing areas, or similar spaces at a facility under our organization’s jurisdiction is prohibited. Exceptions may be made for media and championship celebrations, provided that such exceptions are approved by EPVA and two or more Applicable Adults are present.

iv. Undress

1. Under no circumstances shall an unrelated Applicable Adult at a facility under our organization's jurisdiction intentionally expose his or her breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals to a minor athlete.
 - v. One-on-one interactions
 1. Except for athletes on the same team, at no time are unrelated Applicable Adults permitted to be alone with a minor athlete in a locker room or changing area when at a facility under our partial or full jurisdiction, except under emergency circumstances.
 2. If our organization is using a facility that only has a single locker room or changing area, we will designate separate times for use by Applicable Adults, if any.
 - vi. Monitoring
 1. Our organization regularly and randomly monitors the use of locker rooms and changing areas at facilities under our jurisdiction to ensure compliance with these policies.
 - b. Recommended Components
 - i. We discourage parents from entering locker rooms and changing areas unless it is truly necessary. In those instances, it should only be a same-sex parent when other minor athletes are changing in the same locker room or changing area. If this is necessary, parents should let a coach or administrator know about this in advance.
- D. Social Media & Electronic Communications
- a. Mandatory Components
 - i. Application
 1. This policy shall apply to:
 - a. Adult members at a facility that is either partially or fully under the jurisdiction of EPVA;
 - b. Adult members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors;
 - c. Any adult authorized by EPVA to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
 - d. Adult staff and board members of EPVA.
(Collectively "Applicable Adult" for the purposes of this policy.)
 - ii. Content
 1. All electronic communication originating from Applicable Adults to minor athletes must be professional in nature.
 - iii. Open and transparent
 1. Absent emergency circumstances, if an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes needs to communicate directly with a minor athlete via electronic communications (including social media), another Applicable Adult or the minor's legal guardian will be copied.
 2. If a minor athlete communicates to the Applicable Adult (with authority over the minor athlete) privately first, said Applicable Adult should respond to the minor athlete with a copy to another Applicable Adult or the minor's legal guardian.
 3. When an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes communicates electronically to the entire team, said Applicable Adult will copy another adult.
 4. Minor athletes may "friend" the organization's official page.
 - iv. Requests to discontinue
 1. Legal guardians may request in writing that their minor athlete not be contacted through any form of electronic communication by the organization or by the Applicable Adults subject to this policy. The organization will abide by any such request that their minor athlete not be contacted via electronic communication, absent emergency circumstances.
 - b. Recommended components
 - i. Monitoring
 1. The organization monitors its social media pages and removes any posts that violate the organization's policies and practices for appropriate behavior.

2. The organization will inform the legal guardian of a minor athlete of any prohibited posts, as well as the organization's administrator.
- ii. Prohibited electronic communications
 1. Applicable Adults with authority over minor athletes are not permitted to maintain private social media connections with unrelated minor athletes and such Applicable Adults are not permitted to accept new personal page requests on social media platforms from amateur athletes who are minors, unless the Applicable Adult has a fan page, or the contact is deemed as celebrity contact vs. regular contact. Existing social media connections on personal pages with minor athletes shall be discontinued.

E. Local Travel

a. Mandatory Component

i. Application

1. This policy shall apply to:

- a. Adult members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors;
- b. Any adult authorized by EPVA to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
- c. Adult staff and board members of EPVA.

(Collectively "Applicable Adult" for the purposes of this policy.)

ii. Transportation

1. Applicable Adults who are not also acting as a legal guardian, shall not ride in a vehicle alone with an unrelated minor athlete, absent emergency circumstances, and must have at least two minor athletes or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor athlete's parent/legal guardian in advance of each local travel.

b. Recommended Components

i. Shared or Carpool Travel Arrangement

1. We encourage parents/legal guardians to pick up their minor athlete first and drop off their minor athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement.
2. Parents/legal guardians receive education concerning child abuse prevention before providing consent for their minor athlete to travel alone with an Applicable Adult who is subject to these policies.

F. Team Travel

a. Mandatory Components

i. Application

1. This policy shall apply to:

- a. Adult members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors;
- b. Any adult authorized by EPVA to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and
- c. Adult staff and board members of EPVA.

(Collectively "Applicable Adult" for the purposes of this policy.)

ii. Team/competition travel

1. When only one Applicable Adult and one minor athlete travel to a competition, the minor athlete must have his/her legal guardian's written permission in advance and for each competition to travel alone with said Applicable Adult.

iii. Hotel rooms

1. Applicable Adults shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a minor athlete (unless the Applicable Adult is the legal guardian, sibling, or is otherwise related to the minor athlete). However, a parent/legal guardian may consent to such an arrangement in advance and in writing. Furthermore, a parent/legal guardian may consent in advance and in writing to the minor athlete sharing a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with an adult athlete.

- iv. Meetings
 - 1. Meetings shall be conducted consistent with the organization's policy for one-on-one interactions (i.e., any such meeting shall be observable and interruptible).
- b. Recommended Components
 - i. Team travel policies must be signed and agreed to by all minor athletes, parents, and Applicable Adults traveling with the organization.
 - ii. Applicable Adults who travel with the organization must successfully pass a criminal background check and other screening requirements consistent with the organization's policies.
 - iii. During team travel, when doing room checks, attending team meetings and/or other activities, two-deep leadership (two Applicable Adults should be present) and observable and interruptible environments should be maintained.
 - iv. Meetings should not be conducted in a hotel room.
 - v. Parents/legal guardians receive education concerning child abuse prevention before providing consent for their minor athlete to travel alone with an Applicable Adult who is subject to these policies.