



SafeSport Training FAQ's

Revised: 6/11/2019

USA Climbing updated its SafeSport-related policies in March, 2019 and again in June, 2019. You can find the June 2019 policy [here](#).

1. Why is SafeSport training required for more people than in the past?

We are all committed to athlete safety. The training is one piece in sustaining a safe environment for all athletes. SafeSport Training helps all of us to be more aware of unsafe behavior and potential disruptions to athletes' desire to train, compete and enjoy their sport.

The law, ["Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017"](#) authorizes the U.S. Center for SafeSport (the "Center") to address the risk of emotional, physical, and sexual abuse of amateur athletes in the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movements. The Center provides education and requirements consistent with the law, and this training is part of those requirements. The training is required by the Center, the USOC and USA Climbing.

2. Definitions:

Sustained Interaction (or "regular contact" from the U.S. Center for SafeSport [MAAP](#) Policies): recurring interactions continuing for an extended period, by those in a position of power or control over athletes.

Extended Period: Interactions generally lasting longer than 2 minutes.

3. Who is required to take the SafeSport training?

Under USA Climbing's existing policies and practices, the following categories of individuals continue to be required to complete the SafeSport training including annual refresher training:

- *“Covered Individuals” under [USA Climbing's SafeSport Policy](#), in other words each USA Climbing Certified Coach (including Coach of a Youth Climbing Team or Collegiate Climbing Team as defined in the USA Climbing Rulebook), each National Team coach, National Team manager, National Team medical officer, official National Team chaperone, and any other USA Climbing coach member, staff member, contractor and/or volunteer retained by USA Climbing and expected to have sustained interaction with USA Climbing registered athletes over time, other than as a parent or guardian.*
- *All members of USA Climbing's Board of Directors; and*
- *All USA Climbing Certified Judges.*

In addition, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, USA Climbing is requiring the following categories to take the SafeSport training, including the annual refresher training.

- *All staff members of USA Climbing, even if not expected to have regular or sustained contact with athletes over time;*
- *All USA Climbing Regional Coordinators;*
- *All USA Climbing Certified Routesetters;*
- *USA Climbing Introductory Members, Competitor Members, Collegiate Members & Adaptive Members who are 18 years of age or older, or who will turn 18 during the applicable membership season.*

- *Isolation Coordinators who oversee the isolation area, including overseeing Isolation monitors, who in turn monitor athletes in “Isolation Areas” for onsite competitions.*

4. Do I need the full training or just the annual refresher, and by what date?

- *Those who have never taken the SafeSport training need to complete the full training by June 27th 2019.*
- *Those who already completed the full training during the 2018-2019 season do not need to retake it this season.*
- *Those who took a version of the SafeSport training prior to January 1, 2019 will need to complete the full training again beginning next season September 1, 2019, and the annual refresher thereafter.*
- *Those who took the training after January 1, 2019 will only need to take the annual refresher beginning next season September 1, 2019.*
- *Each year, the deadline for the annual refresher is one year from the core training completion date.*

5. What happens if the training isn't completed?

If the training requirement applies to you, then it is required for you to continue your membership with USA Climbing, to compete in USA Climbing sanctioned events, to participate in USA Climbing camps or other training activities, and to utilize USA Climbing facilities.

The training is also required in order to utilize USOC facilities for training, competition or any other reason.

6. What if I am 17 and my parents do not approve of the training?

Written parental consent is required if you are under 18. The form can be found [here](#) and submitted to Sharlee@usacimbing.org. If your

parents are concerned about the training or object to you completing the training it is not required until you turn 18. Once you are an adult member you must have the training complete to continue your membership with USA Climbing.

7. If I am a volunteer at an event, do I have to take SafeSport training?

As described above, all Certified Judges must complete SafeSport training. In addition, effective immediately, USA Climbing Regional Coordinators and Isolation Coordinators will be required to complete SafeSport training. All other volunteers are encouraged to take the free training by emailing Sharlee@usacimbing.org for more information.

8. Are youth members younger than 17 required to take the SafeSport training?

Not at this time. The Center has created an optional online training course intended for youth athletes (subject to parent or guardian consent).

9. How often is the training required?

After the initial training, which may take up to about 90 minutes to complete, annual refreshers are required which generally take about 20 minutes to complete.

10. How do I access the SafeSport training?

All individuals listed in question 3 should have received an email with the access code on March 22nd, 2019 from info@usacimbing.org. If you cannot locate this email, please email Sharlee@usacimbing.org

11. Does this relate to any requirement for Background Checks?

Not at this time. Implementation for the USOC Responsible Sport Organization Background Check Policy has not yet been determined.