



## Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies

In accordance with the U.S. Center for SafeSport and USA Curling, Granite Curling Club has adopted the following policies to help prevent abuse of minors in our organization. These policies are part of the adoption of new Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies that are including within the current USA Curling SafeSport Handbook. All board of directors and individuals who have regular contact with minors in local, state/regional and national curling organizations must complete abuse and harassment prevention training through the U.S. Center for SafeSport.

### One-on-One Interactions

A. All one-on-one interaction must be observable and interruptible:

- 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 USA Curling's jurisdiction or the jurisdiction of a member organization are permitted if they occur at an observable and interruptible distance from another adult.
- Other 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 USA Curling's jurisdiction or the jurisdiction of a member organization are prohibited, except in the circumstances described in part C of this section and under emergency circumstances.

B. Additionally, meetings must comply with the following:

- Meetings between Applicable Adults and minor athletes at a facility partially or fully under USA Curling's jurisdiction or the jurisdiction of a member organization 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.
- If a one-on-one meeting takes place in an office at a facility partially or fully under USA Curling's jurisdiction or the jurisdiction of a USCA member organization, 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.

C. Meetings with mental health care professionals and health care providers:

- If a mental health care professional and/or health care provider meets with minor athletes at a facility partially or fully under USA Curling's 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 an appropriate representative of USA Curling.



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### D. Individual training sessions:

- Individual training sessions between Applicable Adults and minor athletes are permitted at a facility partially or fully under USA Curling's 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 12 months (once per curling season). Parents, guardians, and other caretakers must be allowed to observe the training session.

### Massages and Rubdowns/Athletic Training Modalities

This aspect of the policy shall apply to **all adult members of organizations that are members of the USCA.**

#### A. Guidelines regarding massages and rubdowns/athletic training modalities:

- Any massage or rubdown/athletic training modality performed at a facility, 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.

### Locker Rooms and Changing Areas

If USA Curling uses a facility not fully under the organization's jurisdiction (for, e.g., training or competition or similar events) and the facility is used by multiple constituents, Applicable Adults listed above are nonetheless required to adhere to the rules set forth below.

#### A. Use of recording devices:

- 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 USA Curling's jurisdiction or the jurisdiction of a USCA member organization is prohibited.
- Exceptions may be made for media and championship celebrations, provided that such exceptions are approved by USA Curling or a USCA member organization and two or more Applicable Adults are present.

#### B. Undress:

- Under no circumstances shall an unrelated Applicable Adult at a facility under USA Curling's jurisdiction/partial jurisdiction or the jurisdiction of a USCA member organization intentionally expose his or her breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals to a minor athlete.

#### C. Monitoring:

- USA Curling will regularly and randomly monitor the use of locker rooms and changing areas at facilities under the organization's jurisdiction to ensure compliance with these policies.



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### Electronic Communications and Social Media

#### A. Communication content:

- All electronic communication originating from Applicable Adults to minor athletes must be professional in nature.

#### B. Requests to discontinue:

- Legal guardians may request in writing that their minor athlete not be contacted directly through any form of electronic communication by the organization or by the Applicable Adults subject to this policy. Applicable Adults, USA Curling, and USCA member organizations will abide by any such request that their minor athlete not be contacted via electronic communication, absent emergency circumstances.

### Local Travel

#### A. Transportation:

- 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 by the minor athlete's parent/legal guardian in advance.
- USA Curling encourages parents/legal guardians to pick up their minor athlete first and drop off their minor athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangements.

### Team Travel

Team travel is travel to a competition or other team activity that the organization plans and supervises.

#### A. Team/competition travel:

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

#### B. Hotel rooms:

- 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.

#### C. Meetings:

- 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).



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### **Minor athletes who become adult athletes**

With the exception of athletes who are members of the same team, Minor Athletes who reach the age of majority (i.e. 18 years of age), must adhere to the provisions found in Section 2 of the USA Curling SafeSport Handbook when interacting with minor athletes who are 14 years of age or younger.

Minor Athletes who reach the age of majority and then obtain a non-athlete position of authority that presents a power imbalance, such as becoming a coach or official, must also comply with these prevention policies regardless of the age of the minor athletes with whom they will interact. Please see above to determine appropriate application of these policies to a particular situation.