

# SAFE SPORT FOR EVENT DIRECTORS

## Which event personnel must take U110: SafeSport Core Course and pass a background check?

USA Gymnastics personnel at sanctioned events who have been recognized as having “Regular Contact and Authority Over Minor Athletes” must take U110: SafeSport Core Course and pass a background check before contact with minor athletes is granted. This applies to the following staff at a meet:

- Meet Director;
- Event official with direct responsibility to manage athlete movements;
- Medical staff who offer massages and icing (this does not include emergency staff such as paramedics);
- Third-Party security personnel (this does not include venue staff)
- Photographers not associated with a third-party photography company; or
- A person with a specific duty assigned to monitor locker rooms and bathrooms.

When making a decision as to whether an event worker or volunteer is required to take U110: SafeSport Core Course and pass a background check, please consider the following:

- Has this person been granted authority over minor athletes?
- Will this person be assigned to give instructions or direct the movements of athletes on the competition floor?
- Will this person be monitoring changing areas?
- Will this person have access to personal information of minor athletes?
- Will this person have access to images of minor athletes taken at the meet?
- Will this person have a responsibility that involves possible physical contact of a minor athlete such as spotter or medical staff?

For a complete list of personnel considered to have regular contact and authority over minor athletes or those considered to only have incidental contact and not required to complete Safe Sport requirements, please visit Appendix A in the USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy that can be found [here](#).

## What are my responsibilities to the USA Gymnastics Permanently Ineligible and Suspended Persons Lists?

Event Directors must assure that people with regular contact and/or authority over minors do not appear on the [USAG Permanently Ineligible List](#), [Suspended From All Contact List](#) and will not be associated with the event in any capacity including, but not limited to:

- Coaches, judges, athletes
- Volunteers
- Meet support personnel
- Independent Photographers
- Independent Medical Personnel
- Third party medical staff
- Third party photographers
- Third party security personnel

## Photography and Medical Staff at an Event

### I want to hire a photographer for my meet. What are the necessary requirements?

USA Gymnastics has created a document that outlines the qualifications for independent photographers and third-party photographers and can be found in [Appendix D](#) of the policy.

### Independent Photographers

- Independent Photographer/Videographer NOT associated with a third-party vendor must obtain a USA Gymnastics Photography/Videographer Membership, which requires completion of USA Gymnastics background check and U110: U.S. Center for SafeSport Core course.
- The Event Director should have a written agreement directly with the individual photographer/videographer that explains their role and expectations for the event. This agreement must include assurances that the photographer does not appear on the USA Gymnastics Permanently Ineligible list or any other exclusion list within the Olympic and Paralympic movement.
- Independent Photographer/Videographer and Event Directors are responsible for following the Safe Sport Policy related to Photography and Videography, which can be found in [Appendix D](#) of the USA Gymnastics 2021 Safe Sport Policy.

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- Event Directors are required to confirm that the Independent Photographer/Videographer has obtained a USA Gymnastics Photography/Videographer Membership.
- The Independent Photographer/Videographer must present their membership card that reflects current U110: U.S. Center for SafeSport training and Background Check certification.
- The Independent Photographer and Event Director are responsible for notifying attendees that photos of minor athletes will be taken, giving parents the opportunity to opt out if requested.
- The Third-Party Photography/Videography Vendor and Event Director are responsible for following the Safe Sport Policy related to the Photography and Videography, which can be found in [Appendix D](#) of the USA Gymnastics 2021 Safe Sport Policy.
- The Third-Party Photography/Videography Vendor and Event Director are responsible for notifying attendees that photos of minor athletes will be taken, giving parents the opportunity to opt out if requested.

## Third-Party Photography/Videographer

- Third-Party Photography/Videography vendors are defined as companies that have entered into an agreement with a meet director and/or host club to provide photography/videography services and assign staff to provide said services at a sanctioned event.
- Third-Party Photography/Videographer Vendor must have at least one owner or managing director obtain a USA Gymnastics Photography/Videographer Membership, which requires completion of USA Gymnastics background check and U110: U.S. Center for SafeSport Core course.
- The staff assigned by the Third-Party Photography/Videography Vendor to provide services at a sanctioned event, are not required to become members of USA Gymnastics. However, the Third-Party Photography/Videography vendor must ensure, and show proof upon check-in at the event that all staff assigned to such events have successfully passed a background check screening consistent with USA Gymnastics Criminal Background Screening Policy, does not appear on the USA Gymnastics Permanently Ineligible list, and has been made aware of USA Gymnastics one-on-one prevention policies. The meet director must check the identification of all photographers and then check their name against the Permanently Ineligible and Suspended Persons lists. The Event Director reserves the right to deny entry to the event for any photographer who fails to submit the proper information.
- The Event Director should have a written agreement directly with the Third-Party Photography/Videography Vendor that explains their role and expectations for the event.

## I want to hire an athletic trainer or medical specialist for my meet, what are the necessary requirements?

USA Gymnastics has created a document that outlines the qualifications for independent medical providers and third-party providers. That document can be found in [Appendix D](#) of the policy.

## Independent Medical Providers

- Independent Medical Providers are individual medical providers who contract directly with the Event Director to provide medical services at a USA Gymnastics sanctioned event.
- Independent Medical Providers must obtain a Medical Membership, which requires completion of USA Gymnastics background check and U110: U.S. Center for SafeSport Core course.
- The Event Director should have a written agreement directly with the medical provider that explains their role and expectations for the event. This agreement must include assurances they do not appear on the USA Gymnastics Permanently Ineligible list or any other exclusion list within the Olympic and Paralympic movement.

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- Medical Providers must be made aware of the USA Gymnastics Safe Sport policy requirements for medical modalities and athletic training. They include:
  - All treatments must be observable and interruptible with another Adult Participant (trained in SafeSport Core) physically present and in full sight of the treatment at all times.
  - A detailed treatment plan including specific areas and method of each treatment must be presented verbally to the athlete before each treatment is offered
  - Athletes and/or parent/guardian may withdraw consent at any time and without explanation.

Athletic trainers hired through third party websites such as Go4Ellis, are considered Independent medical providers and must adhere to the standards for independent providers.

## Third-Party Medical Vendors

Third-Party medical vendors are organizations/licensed businesses that have entered into an agreement with an Event Director to provide medical services and assign staff to provide said services at a sanctioned meet.

- The staff assigned by the Third-Party Medical Vendors to provided services at a sanctioned event, are not required to become members of USA Gymnastics. However, the Third-Party Medical vendors must ensure, and show proof of identification, that all assigned staff who will be offering massaging, icing or taping (to exclude emergency services such as paramedic staff) have successfully passed a background check consistent with [USA Gymnastics Criminal Background Screening Policy](#), have taken SafeSport Core training, do not appear on the USA Gymnastics PIM or Suspended Persons, and are appropriately medically licensed.
- The meet director or their designee must check the identification of all medical staff and then check their name against the [Permanently Ineligible](#) and [Suspended Persons lists](#). The Event Director reserves the right to deny entry to the event for any medical personnel who fails to submit the proper information.

## Event Safe Sport Protocol

### What signage is required at an event?

- Events sanctioned by USA Gymnastics require signage that indicates how to make a report of misconduct to both USA Gymnastics and the U.S. Center for SafeSport.
- Events sanctioned by USA Gymnastics require signage that indicates designated bathrooms and changing areas for minor athletes.

*Templates for how to make a report will be available to Event Directors in both their sanction packet and on the USA Gymnastics website.*

Signage must be visible and placed in a prominent place such as:

- Participant check-in,
- Inside the restrooms and changing areas,
- Parent viewing area, and
- Concession stand.

### What are the bathroom and changing area requirements for minors at a meet?

Private or semi-private places must be made available for Minor Athletes to change clothes or undress at competitions or facilities.

- A semi-private area is an area that is not separate from where other individuals are changing but offers the Minor Athlete some privacy to change. For example, a bathroom stall with a door would meet this requirement. A semi-private area can also be created by a partition or drapery.
- A private area is an area separated completely from anyone else changing. This area would be fully enclosed with a door, and no other individual would be able to enter without the Minor Athlete's permission. This could be a single restroom or family restroom, where the Minor Athlete can change alone and lock the door.

*Sign templates for restroom and changing areas will be available to Event Directors in both their sanction packet and on the USA Gymnastics website.*