

# Policies & Procedures 2025-26

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USAV 2025-2026

MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICIES

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# USAV 2025-2026 MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICIES

#### INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Center for SafeSport (the Center) is committed to building a sport community where Participants can work and learn together in an atmosphere free of emotional, physical, and sexual misconduct. The most commonly used terms throughout this document are defined in the Terminology section in the back of this document.

#### **AUTHORITY**

The Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017 authorizes the Center to develop training and policies to prevent abuse—including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse—within the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(1). Federal law requires that, at a minimum, national governing bodies and paralympic sports organizations must offer and give consistent training related to the prevention of child abuse: (1) to all adult members who are in regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors and (2) subject to parental consent, to members who are minors. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(3).

Federal law requires that these policies contain reasonable procedures to limit unobservable and uninterruptible one-on-one interactions between an amateur athlete, who is a minor, and an adult, who is not the minor's legal guardian, at facilities under the jurisdiction of organizations within the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(2). To that end, the Center has developed the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies ("MAAPP").

#### What is MAAPP?

The MAAPP is a collection of proactive prevention and training policies for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement. It has four primary components:

- 1. Organizational Requirements for Education & Training and Prevention Policies;
- 2. An Education & Training Policy that requires training for certain Adult Participants within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement;
- 3. Required Prevention Policies, focused on limiting one-on-one interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes that Organizations within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement must implement to prevent abuse;
- 4. Recommended Prevention Policies.

The Center developed the MAAPP to assist National Governing Bodies (NGBs), Local Affiliated Organizations (LAOs), the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC), and other individuals to whom these policies apply in meeting their obligations under federal law (Note: implementing these policies does not guarantee that an organization or individual fully complies with federal law or all applicable legal obligations). These Organizations should share these policies with all Participants and with parents/guardians of minor athletes. Those implementing these policies should consider the physical and cognitive needs of all athletes. The MAAPP focuses on just two important aspects of a much larger comprehensive abuse prevention strategy. These policies address training requirements and limiting one-on-one interactions between adults and minor athletes. These policies are intended to be enforceable and

reasonable, acknowledging, for example, that when a 17-year-old athlete turns 18, they become an adult athlete, and a complete prohibition of one-on-one interactions may not be necessary or practical. Additionally, there may be other instances when one-on-one interactions could occur, and in those cases, these policies provide strategies so parents/guardians can provide informed consent if they choose to allow a permitted interaction. The Center recommends that parents first complete training on abuse prevention to be informed about potential boundary violations and concerns before consenting to the interaction.

While the MAAPP will help organizations implement these policies to greatly improve minor athlete safety, in no way can they guarantee athlete safety in all circumstances, especially when the policies are not fully implemented, followed, or monitored. These policies are not comprehensive of all prevention strategies, nor are they intended to be. These policies should be implemented alongside the SafeSport Code. Additionally, other resources are available that may assist organizations in improving athlete safety.<sup>1</sup>

# **How Does the Center Ensure Compliance with the MAAPP?**

Federal law requires the Center to conduct regular and random audits of the NGBs to ensure compliance with these policies. 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(2)(E). More specific organizational compliance requirements can be found in Part I. Additionally, it is the responsibility of the USOPC and each NGB, LAO, and Adult Participant to comply with the MAAPP. The aforementioned organizations can address violations of the MAAPP by Adult Participants in their respective programs. Adult Participants also have an independent responsibility to comply with these MAAPP provisions. Violations of these provisions can result in sanctions under the SafeSport Code.

# Is the MAAPP Different from the SafeSport Code?

Yes. The SafeSport Code works alongside the MAAPP to prevent abuse. The MAAPP includes proactive prevention policies for organizations and individuals, while the SafeSport Code contains misconduct policies for individuals. However, violations of the MAAPP can violate the SafeSport Code, and violators who are also Participants can be sanctioned.

#### SCOPE

# The MAAPP Applies to "In-Program Contact" Within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement

The MAAPP, or a policy containing the minimum required components of the MAAPP, is required for the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), National Governing Bodies (NGB), and Local Affiliated Organizations (LAO) within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement (each an "Organization").

Some policies impose requirements on Organizations at sanctioned events and facilities partially or fully under the Organization's jurisdiction. For example, Organizations must monitor locker rooms at their facilities and sanctioned events. Other policies impose certain requirements

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Saul, J., & Audage, N. C. (2007). Preventing Child Sexual Abuse Within Youth-serving Organizations: Getting Started on Policies and Procedures. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Canadian Centre for Child Protection. (2014). Child Sexual Abuse: It Is Your Business. Winnipeg, Manitoba: Canadian Centre for Child Protection. The Australian Royal Commission Into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. (2017). Final Report

on Adult Participants under the Organization's jurisdiction when the Adult Participant is having "In-Program Contact." For example, Adult Participants cannot have one-on-one meetings with a Minor Athlete unless it is observable and interruptible.

#### Who is a Minor Athlete?

A **Minor Athlete** is an amateur athlete under 18 years of age who participates in, or participated within the previous 12 months in, an event, program, activity, or competition that is part of, or partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USA Volleyball and its LAOs.<sup>2</sup>

**Partial or Full Jurisdiction:** Includes any sanctioned event (including all travel and lodging in connection with the event) by USA Volleyball and its LAOs, or any facility that USA Volleyball or its LAOs owns, leases, or rents for practice, training, or competition.

# Who is an Adult Participant?

An **Adult Participant** is any adult (18 years of age or older) who is:

- 1. A member or license holder of USA Volleyball;
- 2. An employee or board member of USA Volleyball or its LAOs;
- 3. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Volleyball or its LAOs;
- 4. Authorized, approved, or appointed by USA Volleyball or its LAOs to have regular contact with or authority over minor athletes.<sup>3</sup>

# What is In-Program Contact?

In-Program Contact includes sanctioned events and facilities, but it also applies more broadly to sport-related interactions. **The MAAPP defines "In-Program Contact"** as:

Any contact (including communications, interactions, or activities) between an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) related to participation in sport.

Examples of activities related to participation in sport that could be identified as In Program Contact include, but are not limited to: competition, practices, camps/clinics, training/instructional sessions, pre/post-game meals or outings, team travel, review of game film, team- or sport-related relationship building activities, celebrations, award ceremonies, banquets, team- or sport-related fundraising or community service, sport education, or competition site visits.

# Am I required to take SafeSport Training?

Certain Adult Participants within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement who have (i) regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors, (ii) authority over amateur athletes who are minors, or (iii) are employees or board members of USA Volleyball and its LAOs are required to take training. The specific training requirements can be found in Part II.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This term shall also include any minor who participates in, or participated within the previous 12 months in, a nonathlete role partially or fully under the jurisdiction of an NGB, USOPC, or LAO. Examples include, but are not limited to: officials, coaches, or volunteers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This may include volunteers, medical staff, trainers, chaperones, monitors, contract personnel, bus/van drivers, officials, adult athletes, staff, board members, and any other individual who meets the Adult Participant definition.

# PART I ORGANIZATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATION & TRAINING AND PREVENTION POLICIES

All NGBs, LAOs, and the USOPC, in this case "USA Volleyball", must implement proactive policies designed to prevent abuse. These organizational requirements are described below.

# A. Organizational Requirements for Education & Training

- a. USA Volleyball must track whether Adult Participants under its jurisdiction complete the required training listed in Part II.
- b. USA Volleyball must, every 12 months, offer and, subject to parental consent, give training to minor athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
- c. For training to minor athletes, USA Volleyball must track a description of the training and how the training was offered and provided to minor athletes.
- d. USA Volleyball is not required to track individual course completions of minor athletes.
- e. USA Volleyball must, every 12 months, offer training to parents on the prevention and reporting of child abuse.
- f. For training to parents, USA Volleyball must track a description of the training and how the training was offered and provided to parents.
- g. USA Volleyball is not required to track individual course completions of parents.

# **B.** Required Prevention Policies and Implementation

- a. USA Volleyball must develop minor athlete abuse prevention policies to limit one-on-one interactions between a Minor Athlete and an Adult Participant. These policies must contain the mandatory components of the Center's model policies in Part III. These model policies cover:
  - i. Meetings
  - ii. Individual training sessions
  - iii. Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities and Manual Therapy
  - iv. Locker rooms and changing areas
  - v. Electronic communications
  - vi. Transportation
  - vii. Lodging and Residential Environments
- b. The policies must be approved by the Center as described in subsection (C) below. The policies may include the recommended components in Part III and the recommended policies in Part IV. Given the uniqueness of each sport, however, some recommended components or policies may not be feasible or appropriate. Such concerns should be addressed with the Center during the Policy Approval and Submission Process discussed below. USA Volleyball may choose to implement stricter standards than the model policies.
- c. USA Volleyball must also require that its LAOs implement these policies within each LAO.
- d. USA Volleyball and its LAOs must implement these policies for all In-Program Contact.
- e. At sanctioned events and facilities partially or fully under its jurisdiction, the Organization must take steps to ensure the policies are implemented and followed.
- f. For In-Program Contact that occurs outside USA Volleyball's and LAOs' sanctioned event or facilities, implementing these policies means:
  - i. Communicating the policies to individuals under its jurisdiction;
  - ii. Establishing a reporting mechanism for violations of the policies;
  - iii. Investigating and enforcing violations of the policies.

g. USA Volleyball and its LAOs must have a reporting mechanism to accept reports that an Adult Participant is violating USA Volleyball's Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies. The Organization must appropriately investigate and resolve any reports received, unless the violation is reported to the Center and it exercises jurisdiction over the report. This requirement is in addition to requirements to report abuse under the SafeSport Code.

# C. Policy Approval and Submission Process

- a. USA Volleyball may adopt the mandatory minimum requirements of the MAAPP as-is or adapt it to fit their needs. Regardless, USA Volleyball must submit their policies to the Center at compliance@safesport.org for review and approval by April 1, 2024. The Center will approve, approve with modifications, or deny the policies. If the Center denies the proposed policy, the mandatory components of Part III of the Center's Model MAAPP become the default policy until the Center approves the policy.
- b. USA Volleyball must require their LAOs to incorporate the mandatory components of Part III. USA Volleyball may require that their LAOs implement USA Volleyball policies, which may be more stringent than the policies in Part III.
- c. The mandatory components of Part III will serve as the default policy for any Organization that fails to develop its own policy as required by this section.

Any changes made to USA Volleyball's MAAPP after the policy is approved must be submitted to the Center for approval. The previously approved MAAPP will remain in effect until written approval is provided to USA Volleyball from the Center.

# PART II EDUCATION & TRAINING POLICY

# A. Mandatory Child Abuse Prevention Training for Adult Participants

- a. Adult Participants Required to Complete Training
  - i. The following Adult Participants must complete the SafeSport® Trained Core Course through the Center's online training:
    - 1. Adult Participants who have regular contact with any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor:
    - 2. Adult Participants who have authority over any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor:
    - 3. Adult Participants who are an employee or board member of USA Volleyball or its affiliate LAOs.

# b. Timing of Training

 Adult Participants must complete this training before regular contact with an amateur athlete who is a minor begins or within the first 45 days of either initial membership or upon beginning a new role subjecting the adult to this policy, whichever comes first.

# c. Refresher Training

i. The above-listed Adult Participants must complete a refresher course every 12 months, beginning the calendar year after completing the SafeSport® Trained Core Course. Every four years, Adult Participants will complete the SafeSport® Trained Core Course training. Medical providers can take the

Health Professionals Course in lieu of the SafeSport® Trained Core Course and are required to take the refresher courses on an annual basis if they meet the criteria for A(1).

# B. Minor Athlete Training Must Be Offered

- a. USA Volleyball, every 12 months, must offer and, subject to parental consent, give training to minor athletes on the prevention and reporting of child abuse. USA Volleyball offers this training in its welcome letter to members.
- b. The Center offers youth courses, located at safesporttrained.org, that meet this requirement.

# C. Parent Training Must Be Offered

- a. USA Volleyball, every 12 months, must offer training to parents on the prevention and reporting of child abuse. USA Volleyball offers this training in its welcome letter to members.
- b. The Center offers a parent course, located at safesporttrained.org, that meets this requirement.

# D. Optional Training

- a. Adult Participants serving in a volunteer capacity, who will not have regular contact with or authority over any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor, should take the Center's brief Volunteer Course (or SafeSport® Trained Core Course) before engaging or interacting with any minor athlete(s).
- b. USA Volleyball may provide training in addition to the SafeSport® Trained Core Course, although they cannot refer to this training as "SafeSport" training. Training other than the SafeSport Trained Core Course or Refresher does not satisfy this policy.
- c. Parents of minor athletes are provided free online access to the Center's parent course and are encouraged to take the training.

# E. Exemptions and Accommodations

- a. The Center's online training courses contain information about various forms of abuse. The courses do not include graphic descriptions of abuse or show violent images or video. The content may be uncomfortable or trigger trauma for some participants.
  - i. Exemptions to the online training requirement may be requested by survivors of abuse and misconduct. Survivors of abuse can request an exemption by contacting USA Volleyball or can choose to contact the Center directly to request an exemption at exemptions@safesport.org. All exemptions granted by the Center or by USA Volleyball in this category are considered indefinite. The Center will track all requests for exemptions upon notification from USA Volleyball.
  - ii. Exemptions to the online training requirement for reasons other than survivor of abuse and misconduct are limited to cognitive or physical disability or language barrier. Requests for these exemptions must be made by the individual to USA Volleyball. USA Volleyball will determine whether to grant the exemption. If USA Volleyball grants the exemption, it must track the exemption to ensure it is appropriately applied to the individual's membership status. USA Volleyball must preserve documentation that the exemption was granted and for what duration.
  - iii. The Center has several options available to assist individuals in completing the online training courses, including screen reader-compatible versions and course availability in several languages, including English, Spanish, French, Mandarin, Russian, German, and Japanese. If none of the available options

will fit the individual's needs, USA Volleyball may determine whether to grant an exemption.

# PART III REQUIRED POLICIES FOR ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

The U.S. Center for SafeSport recognizes that youth-adult relationships can be healthy and valuable for development. Policies on one-on-one interactions protect children while allowing for these beneficial relationships. As child sexual abuse is often perpetrated in isolated, one-on-one situations, it is critical that organizations limit such interactions between youth and adults and implement programs that reduce the risk of sexual abuse.

All one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be *observable and interruptible*, except in emergency circumstances or with a documented exception.

#### **EXCEPTIONS**

There are certain relationships and situations in which one-on-one interactions may be allowed or necessary. This section identifies policy exceptions for close-in-age relationships, Personal Care Assistants, dual relationships, and emergencies.

The following exceptions are applicable within all Required Prevention Policies unless otherwise noted.

- A. Mandatory Components
  - a. A Close-in-Age Exception
    - i. The purpose of this exception is to allow for continued relationships among athletes on the same team.
    - ii. This exception allows for one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete if:
      - 1. The Adult Participant has **no** authority over the Minor Athlete; and
      - 2. The Adult Participant is not more than 4 years older (determined by birth date) than the Minor Athlete.

Note: This exception is different than the close-in-age exception in the SafeSport Code pertaining to misconduct.

- b. <u>Exceptions for Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants Working with a Minor Athlete</u>
  - i. This exception exists for Adult Participants who also assist an athlete with activities of daily living and preparation for athletic participation. This exception allows for one-on-one In-Program Contact between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete if the following requirements are met:
    - the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent to USA Volleyball and/or its Region for the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant to work with the Minor Athlete; and

- 2. the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with the Education & Training Policy; and,
- 3. the Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant has complied with USA Volleyball background screening policy.

# c. Exceptions for Dual Relationships

This exception allows for one-on-one In-Program Contact when the Adult Participant has a relationship with a Minor Athlete that is outside of the sport program. The exception requires written consent of the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian at least annually. The consent must identify for which Required Prevention Policies the parent/guardian is allowing the one-on-one In-Program Contact.

# d. Emergency Exception

i. This exception applies to all Required Prevention Policies for situations where an Adult Participant must violate requirement(s) of the MAAPP due to an emergency. Adult Participants must carefully consider whether specific circumstances meet the threshold of "emergency." Adult Participants should document emergency situations in accordance with USA Volleyball's protocols.

The Center recommends parents take training on child abuse prevention before providing consent to the above exceptions. The Center offers a free Parent Course at safesporttrained.org.

#### **MEETINGS POLICY**

Sexual abuse often happens when children are alone with their abusers. This section provides policies for meetings to limit one-on-one interactions between children and adults, including mental health care professionals and licensed health care providers.

# A. Mandatory Components

- a. Observable and Interruptible
  - i. Adult Participants must ensure that all In-Program meetings with Minor Athletes be observable and interruptible, unless an exception exists.
- b. <u>Meetings with licensed mental health care professionals and health care providers</u> (other than athletic trainers.<sup>4</sup>)

If a licensed mental health care professional, licensed health care provider, or a student under the supervision of a licensed mental health care professional or licensed health care provider, meets one-on-one with a Minor Athlete at a sanctioned event or a facility, which is partially or fully under USA Volleyball or its Region's jurisdiction, the meeting must be observable and interruptible except:

- 1. If the door remains unlocked; and
- Another adult is present at the facility and notified that a meeting is occurring, although the Minor Athlete's identity needs not be disclosed; and
- 3. USA Volleyball or its Regions is notified that the professional or provider will be meeting with a Minor Athlete; and,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Athletic trainers who are covered under these policies must follow the "Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities" policy.

4. The professional or provider obtains consent consistent with applicable laws and ethical standards, which can be withdrawn at any time.

# **B.** Recommended Components

#### a. Parent Training

i. Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to have a meeting or training session with an Adult Participant subject to these policies.

#### TRAINING SESSIONS POLICY

Some abusers will single out athletes for special one-on-one instruction. This kind of isolation provides opportunities for abuse to occur. This section establishes rules for individual and group training sessions to protect youth athletes from uncomfortable or unsafe situations.

# A. Mandatory Components

# a. Observable and Interruptible

 Adult Participants must ensure all In-Program individual and group training sessions with a Minor Athlete be observable and interruptible unless an exception exists.

#### b. Consent

i. The Adult Participant providing individual training sessions must receive advance, written consent from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian at least annually, which can be withdrawn at any time; and

#### c. Parent Observation

i. Parents/guardians must be allowed to observe individual and group training sessions.

# **B.** Recommended Components

#### a. Monitoring

i. If a permitted meeting or training session takes place between an Adult Participant(s) and a Minor Athlete(s) at a facility partially or fully under USA Volleyball and its Region's jurisdiction, another Adult Participant will monitor each meeting or training session. Monitoring includes reviewing the parent/guardian consent form, knowing that the meeting or training session is occurring, knowing the approximate planned duration of the meeting or training session, and dropping in on the meeting or training session.

#### b. Parent Training

 Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to have a meeting or training session with an Adult Participant subject to these policies.

#### MANUAL THERAPY AND THERAPEUTIC AND RECOVERY MODALITIES POLICY5

Many athletes require therapies to prevent or treat injuries. However, these treatment sessions can place children in vulnerable positions, especially if they involve physical contact with adults. This section establishes standards for therapeutic and recovery modalities and manual therapy to reduce the risk of inappropriate contact between youth and adults.

#### A. Mandatory Components

(Note: Only the emergency exception applies within this policy.)

- a. Observable and Interruptible
  - Adult Participants must ensure that all In-Program Contact during manual therapy and therapeutic modalities and recovery modalities with Minor Athletes must be observable and interruptible.
- b. Manual Therapy and Therapeutic and Recovery Modalities Requirements
  - i. Adult Participants must ensure all In-Program manual therapy and therapeutic and recovery modalities meet the following requirements:
    - 1. Have another Adult Participant physically present for the modality or manual therapy; and
    - 2. Have documented consent as explained in subsection (4) below; and
    - 3. Be performed with the Minor Athlete fully or partially clothed, ensuring that the breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals are always covered; and
    - 4. Allow parents/guardians in the room as an observer, except for competition or training venues that limit credentialing; and
    - 5. The provider must narrate the steps in the modality before taking them, seeking assent of the Minor Athlete throughout the process.

#### c. Consent

- i. Providers of manual therapy, therapeutic modalities, or recovery modalities or USA Volleyball and its Regions, when applicable, must obtain consent at least annually from Minor Athletes' parents/guardians before providing any manual therapy, therapeutic modalities, or recovery modalities.
- ii. Minor Athletes or their parents/guardians can withdraw consent at any time.

# **B.** Recommended Components

a. Parent Training

Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport education and training on childabuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to receive a manual therapy, therapeutic modality, or recovery modality.

- b. When possible, techniques should be used to reduce physical touch of Minor Athletes.
- c. Only licensed providers should administer manual therapy, therapeutic modalities, or recovery modalities.
- d. Coaches, regardless of whether they are licensed massage therapists, should not massage Minor Athletes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Manual therapy and therapeutic and recovery modalities can be different for each sport. They can include, but are not limited to: first aid, massage, taping, cupping, stretching, cryotherapy, neuromuscular stimulations, electrical stimulation, or other modalities within the scope of a Healthcare Provider's credentials.

#### LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS POLICY

Young athletes may be especially vulnerable to abuse in changing areas where they are undressing and possibly showering. Appropriate monitoring is necessary in these areas to prevent abuse and other inappropriate conduct. This section outlines policies for locker rooms and changing areas to ensure privacy and safety.

# **A. Mandatory Components**

- a. Observable and Interruptible
  - i. Adult Participants must ensure that all In-Program Contact with Minor Athlete(s) in a locker room, changing area, or similar space where Minor Athlete(s) are present is observable and interruptible, unless an exception exists.
- b. Conduct in Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces
  - i. No Adult Participant or Minor Athlete can use the photographic or recording capabilities of any device in locker rooms, changing areas, or any other area designated as a place for changing clothes or undressing.
  - ii. Adult Participants must not remove their clothes or behave in a manner that intentionally or recklessly exposes their breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals to a Minor Athlete in a locker room or changing area.
  - iii. Adult Participants must not shower with Minor Athletes unless:
    - 1. The Adult Participant meets the Close-in-Age Exception; or
    - 2. The shower is part of a pre- or post-activity rinse while wearing swimwear.
  - iv. Parents/guardians may request in writing that their Minor Athlete(s) not change or shower with Adult Participant(s) during In-Program Contact. USA Volleyball and its LAOs and the Adult Participant(s) must abide by this request.
- c. Media and Championship Celebrations in Locker Rooms
  - i. USA Volleyball and its Regions may permit recording or photography in locker rooms for the purpose of highlighting a sport or athletic accomplishment if:
    - 1. Parent/legal guardian consent has been obtained; and
    - 2. USA Volleyball and its Regions approves the specific instance of recording or photography; and
    - 3. Two or more Adult Participants are present; and
    - 4. Everyone is fully clothed.

#### d. Personal Care Assistants

- i. Adult Participant Personal Care Assistants are permitted to be with and assist Minor Athlete(s) in locker rooms, changing areas, and similar spaces where other Minor Athletes are present, if they meet the requirements detailed on page 14.
- e. Availability and Monitoring of Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Similar Spaces
  - i. USA Volleyball and its LAOs must provide a private or semi-private place for Minor Athletes that need to change clothes or undress at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under USA Volleyball's jurisdiction. USA Volleyball does not utilize changing rooms at its events. If USA Volleyball did utilize changing rooms, it would follow the above procedures.
  - ii. IF locker rooms, changing areas, or similar spaces are used at USA Volleyball events, USA Volleyball and its LAOs must monitor their use to ensure compliance with these policies at sanctioned events or facilities partially or fully under USA Volleyball and its Region's jurisdiction.

#### ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS POLICY<sup>6</sup>

Technology has made it easier for teams to communicate and share information. Unfortunately, it also makes it easier for abusers to contact children without supervision or share inappropriate images and video. This section sets standards for appropriate electronic communications between youth and adults.

# A. Mandatory Components

# 1. Open and Transparent

- a. All one-on-one electronic communications between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must be Open and Transparent, unless an exception exists.
- b. "Open and Transparent" means that the Adult Participant copies or includes the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian, another adult family member of the Minor Athlete, or another Adult Participant on every communication.
  - If a Minor Athlete communicates with the Adult Participant first, the Adult Participant must follow this policy if the Adult Participant responds.
- c. Only platforms that allow for Open and Transparent communication may be used to communicate with Minor Athletes.

#### 2. Team Communication

When an Adult Participant communicates electronically to the entire team or any number of Minor Athletes on the team, the Adult Participant must copy or include the Minor Athletes' parents/guardians, another adult family member of the Minor Athletes, or another Adult Participant.

#### 3. Content

All electronic communication originating from an Adult Participant(s) to a Minor Athlete(s) must be professional in nature unless an exception exists.

#### 4. Requests to Discontinue

Parents/guardians may request in writing that USA Volleyball and its LAOs or an Adult Participant not contact their Minor Athlete through any form of electronic communication. USA Volleyball, its LAOs and the Adult Participant must abide by any request to discontinue, absent emergency circumstances.

#### **B. Recommended Components**

#### 1. Hours

Electronic communications should generally be sent only between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. local time for the location of the Minor Athlete.

#### 2. Social Media Connections

Adult Participants, except those with a Dual Relationship or who meet the Close-in-Age Exception, are not permitted to have private social media connections with Minor Athletes and should discontinue existing social media connections with Minor Athletes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Electronic communications include, but are not limited to: email, phone calls, videoconferencing, video coaching, texting, social media, or through any other electronic medium.

#### TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Athletes are often carpooling or traveling without the supervision of their parent/guardian to practices and competitions. This can place them in vulnerable positions where they are susceptible to abuse. This section establishes policies for adults transporting children to or from sport Activities.

#### A. Mandatory Components

1. Observable and Interruptible

Adult participants must ensure that all In-Program Contact during Transportation is Observable and Interruptible unless an exception exists or:

- a. The Adult Participant has advanced, written consent to transport the Minor Athlete one-on-one, obtained at least annually from the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.
- b. The Adult Participant is accompanied by another Adult Participant or at least two minors who are at least 8 years of age.

# 2. <u>Additional Requirements for Transportation Authorized or Funded by USA Volleyball and its Regions</u>

- a. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian is required for all transportation authorized or funded by USA Volleyball and its Regions at least annually.
- b. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.

#### **B. Recommended Components**

1. Shared or Carpool Travel Arrangement

The Organization encourages parents/guardians to pick up their Minor Athlete first and drop off their Minor Athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement.

2. Parent Training

Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their Minor Athlete to travel one-on-one with an Adult Participant.

#### LODGING AND RESIDENTAL ENVIRONMENTS POLICY

Youth athletes traveling overnight face greater risk of sexual abuse if they are traveling without their parent/guardian. Abusers can take advantage of the situation by trying to have unsupervised time alone with children. This section sets rules for sleeping arrangements and room monitoring to protect athletes during overnight travel.

#### A. Mandatory Components

1. Observable and Interruptible

All In-Program Contact during lodging must be observable and interruptible unless an exception exists.

a. Lodging arrangements covered under this policy include, but are not limited to, hotel stays, rentals (i.e., Airbnb, VRBO, HomeToGo, etc.), and long-term residential environments, including lodging at training sites and billeting.

### 2. <u>Hotel Rooms and Other Sleeping Arrangements</u>

- a. An Adult Participant cannot share a hotel room or otherwise sleep in the same room with a Minor Athlete(s), unless an exception exists and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided USA Volleyball and its Regions or Adult Participant with advance, written consent for each specific lodging arrangement.
- b. Written consent from a Minor Athlete's parent/guardian must be obtained for all In-Program lodging at least annually.
- c. Minor Athlete(s) or their parent/guardian can withdraw consent at any time.
- d. Adult Participants without an exception and written parent/guardian consent as stated above are not permitted to stay overnight with Minor Athlete(s) in a communal lodging space such as an Airbnb, VRBO, HomeToGo, etc.

# 3. Monitoring or Room Checks During In-Program Travel

If USA Volleyball and its Regions or a team performs room checks during In-Program lodging, the one-on-one interaction policy must be followed and at least two adults must be present for the room checks.

4. <u>Additional Requirements for Lodging Authorized or Funded by the Organization</u> Adult Participants that travel overnight with Minor Athlete(s) are assumed to have Authority over Minor Athlete(s) and thus must comply with the Education and Training policy outlined in Part II, unless the Adult Participant meets the Close-in-Age exception.

# **B. Recommended Components**

#### Parent Training

Parents/guardians receive the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training on child abuse prevention before providing consent for lodging arrangements under this policy.

# PART IV RECOMMENDED POLICIES FOR KEEPING YOUNG ATHLETES SAFE

# A. Out-of-Program Contact

Adult Participants, who do not meet the Close-in-Age Exception nor have a Dual Relationship with a Minor Athlete, should not have out-of-program contact with Minor Athlete(s) without legal/parent guardian consent, even if the out-of-program contact is not one-on-one.

# B. Gifting

- 1. Adult Participants, who do not meet the Close-in-Age Exception nor have a Dual Relationship with a Minor Athlete, should not give personal gifts to Minor Athlete(s).
- 2. Gifts that are equally distributed to all athletes and serve a motivational or educational purpose are permitted.

#### C. Photography/Video

- 1. Photographs or videos of athletes may only be taken in public view and must observe generally accepted standards of decency.
- 2. Adult Participants should not publicly share or post photos or videos of Minor Athlete(s) if the Adult Participant has not obtained the parent/guardian and Minor Athlete's consent.

#### **TERMINOLOGY**

Adult Participant: Any adult (18 years of age or older) who is:

- a. A member or license holder of USA Volleyball;
- b. An employee or board member of USA Volleyball or its LAOs;
- c. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Volleyball or its LAOs:
- d. Authorized, approved, or appointed by USA Volleyball or its LAOs to have regular contact with or authority over minor athletes.<sup>7</sup>

**Amateur Athlete**: An athlete who meets the eligibility standards established by the National Governing Body for the sport in which the athlete competes.

**Authority:** When one person's position over another person is such that, based on the totality of the circumstances, they have the power or right to direct, control, give orders to, or make decisions for that person. Also see the Power Imbalance definition in the SafeSport Code. Note: NGBs and the USOPC must submit/include categories of members/individuals that fall under the definition, including specific volunteer designations.

**Close-in-Age Exception**: An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant does not have authority over a Minor Athlete and is not more than 4 years older than the Minor Athlete (e.g., a 19-year-old and a 16-year-old). *Note: This exception only applies within the prevention policies and not regarding conduct defined in the SafeSport Code.* 

**Dual Relationships**: An exception applicable to certain policies when an Adult Participant has a relationship with a Minor Athlete outside of the sport program and the Minor Athlete's parent/guardian has provided written consent at least annually authorizing the exception.

**In-Program Contact**: Any contact (including communications, interactions, or activities) between an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) related to participation in sport.

Examples of In-Program Contact include, but are not limited to: competition, practices, camps/clinics, training/instructional sessions, pre/post game meals or outings, team travel, review of game film, team- or sport-related relationship building activities, celebrations, award ceremonies, banquets, team- or sport-related fundraising or community service, sport education, or competition site visits.

**Local Affiliated Organization (LAO)**: A regional, state, or local club or organization that is directly affiliated with an NGB or that is affiliated with an NGB by its direct affiliation with a regional or state affiliate of said NGB. LAO does not include a regional, state, or local club or organization that is only a member of a National Member Organization of an NGB. USA Volleyball considers its LAOs to include Regions and clubs affiliated with Regions.

**Minor Athlete**: An Amateur Athlete under 18 years of age who participates in, or participated within the previous 12 months in, an event, program, activity, or competition that is part of, or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This may include volunteers, medical staff, trainers, chaperones, monitors, contract personnel, bus/van drivers, officials, adult athletes, staff, board members, and any other individual who meets the Adult Participant definition.

partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USA Volleyball and its LAOs.8

**Partial or Full Jurisdiction**: Includes any sanctioned event (including all travel and lodging in connection with the event) by USA Volleyball and its LAOs, or any facility that USA Volleyball and/or its LAOs owns, leases, or rents for practice, training, or competition.

**National Governing Body (NGB)**: A U.S. Olympic National Governing Body or Pan American Sport Organization recognized by the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. §§ 220501, et seq. This definition shall also apply to the USOPC, or other sports entity approved by the USOPC, when they have assumed responsibility for the management or governance of a sport included on the program of the Olympic, Paralympic, or Pan-American Games.

Adult Participant Personal Care Assistant: An Adult Participant who assists a parasport athlete who requires help with activities of daily living (ADL) and preparation for athletic participation. This support can be provided by a Guide for Blind or visually impaired athletes or can include assistance with transfer, dressing, showering, medication administration, and toileting. Personal Care Assistants are different for every athlete and should be individualized to fit their specific needs. When assisting a Minor Athlete, Adult Participant PCAs must be authorized by the athlete's parent/guardian.

**Regular Contact**: Ongoing interactions during a 12-month period wherein an Adult Participant is in a role of direct and active engagement with any amateur athlete(s) who is a minor. Note: NGBs and the USOPC must submit/include categories of members/individuals that fall under the definition, including specific volunteer designations.

**Residential Environment:** A place in which participants live or stay temporarily. Residential environments include, but are not limited to, onsite housing at training facilities, billeting, hotel stays, or rentals (i.e., Airbnb, VRBO, HomeToGo, etc.).

**Billeting**: A residential environment facilitated by an Adult Participant, USA Volleyball and its LAOs, or sanctioned event staff in which a Minor Athlete is temporarily housed in a private home with an adult or family who is not related to or known by the Minor Athlete. This lodging arrangement is in conjunction with an activity related to sport.

**U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC)**: A federally chartered nonprofit corporation that serves as the National Olympic Committee and National Paralympic Committee for the United States.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> This term shall also include any minor who participates in, or participated within the previous 12 months in, a nonathlete role partially or fully under the jurisdiction of an NGB, USOPC, or LAO. Examples include, but are not limited to: officials, coaches, or volunteers.

#### **APPENDIX I**

#### CHART OF POSSIBLE ADULT PARTICIPANTS IN USAV:

Adult Participant	Regular Contact	<b>Authority Over</b>
USAV Staff/Interns	X	X
USAV Board Members		X
Region/Club Staff	X	X
Region/Club Board Members		X
Coaches	X	X
Officials	X	X
USAV Members 18 years or over on teams with Minors	X	
Chaperones	X	X
Club Administrators	X	X
Arbitrators	X	X
Medical Professionals	X	X
Athletic Trainers	X	X
Independent Contractors*	X	

USAV Members 18 and over who are only participating in Opens (i.e., not also a club coach, chaperone, or board member) with no minor players are not required to take training.

\*Independent Contractor positions not meeting the Regular Contact definition are not required to take training.

Event vendors are not required to take training but are subject to the Required Prevention Policies.

#### Jellys Volleyball - Player Rules & Policies

As a Christian Club, we expect that our athletes act in a courteous and **Christ** like manner throughout the season. Athletes that disobey either club or USAV rules, or act in a manner that we deem inappropriate may be disciplined or released from Jellys Volleyball by the Directors. If expulsion from the program is required, there will be no financial compensation, and remaining club fees will still be due.

Every member of Jellys will be offered training through practices. Playing time is based on practice and event performance of the athlete, as viewed by the team coach and our Jellys coaching staff. Court time at major competitions will be geared toward the best line-up. Equal playtime is NOT guaranteed.

Players must call their coach at least one hour before practice if they will not be in attendance. Athletes who miss practice are missing valuable information and training time, and, potentially, may have their playing time decreased.

To prevent choking and 'sticky' situations, players will not be allowed to chew gum while practicing, playing, or officiating at events. To ensure the safety of fans and spectators and to prevent damage at playing sites, ball handling will only be done inside the gymnasium.

Any member found to be in the possession of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs on the premises of any practice or tournament facility of Jellys Volleyball may be immediately expelled from the program.

#### **Practice Policies**

Please be on time for practice. We have limited gym space and, to avoid another team's practice starting late or your practice running short, every athlete must be dressed, warmed up, and ready to go at the practice time listed. If an athlete arrives late to a practice, they must report to their coach and explain why they are late. The coach, in his/her sole discretion, will determine any corrective action to be taken.

Practices are for you, the athlete, to improve your skills. You get out of it what you put into it...always give 100% of the energy you have at that moment in practice. You play how you practice!

#### **Team Levels**

- **1. Elite Teams -** will receive 2 to 3, 2 hour practices a week and a minimum of 6 tournaments per season
- **2. Club Teams** will receive 2, 2 hour practices a week and a minimum of 5 tournaments per season

Transportation to practice is your responsibility.

#### **Parent Rules and Policies**

Parents will not be permitted to discuss the coaching philosophies with the coaches at a tournament. We require that, if a parent is upset about something with a team, he/she will wait until the day after the tournament ends before communicating with the coaches. Under no circumstances may a parent contact the coach while at a tournament. If further problems arise,

please contact the Directors of the club who may schedule a meeting with the Coach, Directors, and parents all together. (Please see Grievance Policy & Procedures)

#### **Tournament Policies**

Teams will arrive at the playing site at least 45 minutes prior to their first match (45 minutes if refereeing and 1 hour for playing the first match). All athletes are expected to attend every tournament. If an athlete cannot be at a tournament, they must inform the coach as soon as they know they will be absent so that the coach can make appropriate changes to lineups. Athletes may not leave a tournament site until excused by the coach.

# Request to Discontinue All Electronic Communication or Imagery

The parents or guardians of an athlete may request in writing that their child not be contacted by any form of electronic communication by coaches or Applicable Adults subject to this policy (photography or videography). **Jellys Volleyball** will abide by any such request that their minor athlete not be contacted via electronic communication, absent emergency circumstances.

#### **Misconduct**

Social media and electronic communications can also be used to commit misconduct (e.g., emotional, sexual, bullying, harassment, and hazing). Such communications by coaches, staff, volunteers, administrators, officials, parents or athletes will not be tolerated and are considered violations of our Participant Safety Handbook.

#### **Violations**

Violations of **Jellys Volleyball's** Electronic Communications and Social Media Policy should be reported to your immediate supervisor, **Jellys Volleyball** administrator/director – Kevin Krause <u>directors@jellysvolleyball.com</u>. Complaints and allegations will be addressed under **Jellys Volleyball's** Disciplinary Rules and Procedure.

# **Meetings**

Meetings shall be conducted consistent with **Jellys Volleyball** policy for one-on-one interactions. Individual meetings between coach and player may not occur in hotel sleeping rooms and must be held in a public setting or with additional adults present with one of those adults being the same gender as the player.

#### **Grievances - 24-Hour Rule**

Knowing when to communicate and how to communicate with your athlete's coach is a concern for almost every parent at some time during the season. Most often, the concern is how to inquire about issues surrounding playing time.

Jellys Volleyball encourages the athlete to talk to the coach when they have a problem with playing time. If the athlete is unsure or confused about what the coach expects from them, either in practice or in competition, the appropriate action is for the athlete to communicate with the coach as to what they need to do to get more opportunities to play in matches or at another position.

When parents have a problem that is specific to their own athlete, we also encourage them to speak first to the coach. Coaches WILL NOT discuss "coaching decisions." Coaching decisions include, among other things, specific match decisions (who played when, who was subbed in/out

and when, etc.). Playtime is a very complex determination. It includes the coach's opinion, the athlete's ability, the athlete's potential, the team's needs at the moment, the momentum of the game, and the team's needs for the future. The coach will not be required to defend his/her thought process or conclusions in these determinations, and it is improper for a parent to make such a request.

In addition, Jellys instructs coaches not to discuss any athlete other than the parent's own or the actions of any other Jellys coach. If you, as a parent, have legitimate concerns about a coach other than your athlete's coach, or with an athlete other than your own, you must address the director(s).

#### **Policy Order**

- 1. The athlete should first speak to the coach about the matter. If the matter remains unresolved, or the athlete has a reasonable concern that speaking to the coach will not resolve the matter, then move on to step 2.
- 2. The parents should speak or meet with the coach. Parents and/or athletes should contact the coach via the telephone to set up a meeting time (not during a tournament).
  - A parent should never approach a coach at a tournament. We have instructed the coaches to follow the "24-hour rule," to refuse to discuss any controversial matter, and to refer the parent to the Directors. The coach will then walk away.
  - The recommended time for a parent to schedule a meeting is usually before or immediately following a scheduled practice.
  - If the matter remains unresolved or if the parent has a reasonable concern that speaking with the coach will not resolve the matter, then go to step 3.
- 3. The parent may speak to the Director(s) and request a meeting with the coach and Director(s) together.
  - In certain situations, Jellys may request the athlete to also attend.
  - Meetings should be previously arranged. This will not take place at a tournament site.
  - The Director(s) will not engage in discussions about coaching decisions.
- 4. If the parent or athlete is not satisfied by the action of the Coach or the Director(s), they may request, in writing to the club Director(s) Kevin and Charlene Krause, <a href="mailto:directors@jellysvolleyball.com">directors@jellysvolleyball.com</a>, that another meeting take place to further discuss the issue. The decision of the club director at this point is **FINAL**. Three common complaints that volleyball clubs face every season are as follows:
  - My daughter/son is on the wrong team This generally means that the player is not on what is considered to be "The Elite team" (very rarely does anyone ask to move down). Methods used to assign players to teams are based on an evaluation conducted in a professional manner based upon the consensus of several qualified coaches. Time has shown that team assignments are made fairly with few mistakes. Players have been and will continue to be moved if the qualified individuals feel that it is in the player's best interest to do so.
  - My daughter/son is not playing the right position Oftentimes a player is the shining star on a high school or middle school team at a particular position and is not allowed playing time at that position in Club ball. There are several reasons for this. First, we all have to remember that the competition within the club is a lot stronger than on school teams; therefore, the competition for each position is more intense than in a school environment where the number of skilled players is limited. Second, the coach may have a particular need at a certain position and the player is the only one with the requisite skills to

fill that need. In any event, talk to the coach first about any concern you may have and then support the coach's decision. One further note: Do not, under any circumstance, corner the coach at a tournament. A meeting time should be scheduled to discuss such a matter. Jellys requires a "24-hour rule" for parents to talk to coaches about issues with his/her daughter's playing time, team, etc.

My daughter/son is not playing enough — This can be a common question or complaint.
When playing for Jellys Volleyball, athletes will not always play the same amount of time.
We cannot provide a guarantee of playing time. Jellys does provide a guarantee of the right to practice with players of equal or better ability and, through hard work, to improve skill levels and to compete for the opportunity to play.

Playing time is earned, not awarded. Negative comments directed to other parents, coaches and players concerning offensive schemes, defensive schemes, players' positions, who is playing, etc. or providing excuses to players for poor performances have no place in our program. Help maintain an excellent program by supporting coaches and players with a positive attitude.

- \*\*Repetitive complaining to the athlete(s) or to a third party that interferes with the club's efforts may be a cause, in the sole determination of the club, to ask the member to resign.\*\*
- 5. **Refunds and Deposits**: Upon making a Jellys team, at a regular or supplemental tryout,  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the regular season club fees are due to secure the athletes' spot. Subsequent refund of any club dues is based on the number of players per team **and given for medical reasons ONLY**. All refunds are reviewed on a case by case basis. All final decisions are determined by the Director(s).
- 6. All issues or disputes, regardless of the nature or source, must follow the previously detailed club "Policy Order" as stated in numbers 1-4 above.

# Additional Information Regarding Grievances with Jellys Volleyball

- 1. Jellys will not tolerate hostile, aggressive confrontations between a parent and any official, coach, athlete, or another parent, whether the confrontation is within the club or not. Violation of this policy may result in the athlete(s) being dismissed from Jellys Volleyball.
- 2. It is inappropriate for an athlete or parent to approach other Jellys members about a problem the athlete or parent is having with a Jellys coach.
  - Asking uninvolved persons to take sides in an issue is unfair to the third party and to the club. For the psychological health of the teams and the club as a whole, grievances need to be handled between the parties involved and the decision makers in the situation.
  - Remember...Competitive team athletics, by nature alone, create situations where everyone may not be happy all of the time.
- 3. Any member who is approached and asked to listen to or to express an opinion about matters between two other parties in the club is **strongly** encouraged to refer the complaining party to take the matter up with either the coach or the directors.
- 4. Any member who, as a third party, hears remarks or stories about Jellys Volleyball, its' employees or its' policies, that cause the member to be concerned, is encouraged to call the Director(s) immediately to determine the facts, or to alert the club administration to a situation of which it may be unaware.

- By the time the story gets to a third or fourth party, it frequently bears little resemblance to the truth or to the facts of the situation.
- It is also detrimental to the athlete and disruptive to the team to complain to the athlete about the coach, the coach's style, or the Jellys' policies.
- If you, as a parent, are unhappy or concerned about any matter, address the party in control. If the athlete is unhappy, she needs to address the appropriate party.
- 5. The Club Director has the final decision in all disputes and grievances.



# **USAV Club Release Form**

If an athlete/family decides to depart Jellys Volleyball during the respective season, the following steps must take place:

#### **Release Policy:**

STEP 1 - The athlete/family in question must submit a written request for release to the Club Director, **Kevin and Charlene Krause** at <u>directors@jellysvolleyball.com</u> and to the Florida Region at <u>membership@FloridaVolleyball.org</u> stating the reason for the request.

Jellys Volleyball may deny request for release of the athlete.

STEP 2 – If Jellys Volleyball approves release of the athlete.

- 1. All financial obligations agreed upon contractually must be paid in full before the athlete is approved to be released.
- 2. Payment Options Cashier's check or Zelle to Jellys Volleyball at 941-726-1600
- 3. Once payment is received by Cashier's check or Zelle Jellys Volleyball will send an email to the Florida Region at <a href="mailto:membership@floridavolleyball.org">membership@floridavolleyball.org</a> approving release of the named athlete.

The club may agree to waive the requirements above on a case-by-case basis.

**Relocation Policy:** A change in the geographical location of the family due to a change in job, military, scholastic or inner-collegiate status may receive special consideration. No player may participate in different Qualifying events with different clubs/teams. Proof of residency must be provided by the family at the time of the release/transfer request.

Once an athlete has participated in a National Qualifier Event (Regional or NQ) they may not be released for the rest of the season to another club. Please refer to the USA Volleyball (USAV) Championship Manual on releases for athletes that participate in regional or national qualifying/bid events.

Parent Name (Print)	Parent Signature	
Doto		
Date		



# **AAU Club Release Form**

A youth member becomes attached to a club member when he/she competes with that club in any AAU licensed event (practice not included). An athlete may attach to additional clubs if he/she participates in additional sports. An attached youth member may transfer to another club in the same sport if the primary contact of the club to which an athlete is attached signs a release form permitting an immediate transfer. (Athletes released under this provision are subject to National Championship eligibility restrictions as adopted by National Sport Committees.) If the youth member has not competed in any AAU licensed events in that Sport for a period of sixty (60) days, a release form is not needed and the athlete may transfer immediately. The AAU Compliance Department should be notified of disaffiliation from original club.

# Jellys Volleyball Release Policy:

STEP 1 - The athlete/family in question must submit a written request for release to the Club Director, **Kevin and Charlene Krause** at <u>directors@jellysvolleyball.com</u>.

Jellys Volleyball may deny request for release of the athlete.

STEP 2 – If Jellys Volleyball approves release of the athlete.

- 1. All financial obligations agreed upon contractually must be paid in full before the athlete is approved to be released.
- 2. Payment Options Cashier's check or Zelle to Jellys Volleyball at 941-726-1600
- 3. Once payment is received by Cashier's check or Zelle Jellys Volleyball may agree to waive the requirements above on a case-by-case basis.

**Relocation Policy:** A change in the geographical location of the family due to a change in job, military, scholastic or inner-collegiate status may receive special consideration. Proof of residency must be provided by the family at the time of the release/transfer request.

Athlete's Name:AAU Membership Number:			
Code:	) release	from participation in my club.	
This release is effect	tive immediately.		
Club Director Name	(Print):		
Club Director Signat	ture:		
Date:			

For additional rules regarding Club Attachment, Transfers and Eligibility, please refer to the AAU Code Book or sport specific rulebook at www.aausports.org.

Complete this form and return to AAU Compliance Office at the National Headquarters Email: <a href="mailto:compliance@aausports.org">compliance@aausports.org</a> or Fax: 407-828-0166