

Class B 14, 16, 18 Event Personnel, Coaches, and Umpires,

As we prepare for the Class B State Tournament, we want to remind you of several policies and procedures in place to ensure our athletes have the safest experience possible.

USA Softball has a zero – tolerance policy for any type of abuse within the sport of Softball. Our Safe Softball program provides policies and processes, screening, education and training, reporting, monitoring, and enforcement designed to help participants detect and report abuse, respond to it, and prevent future occurrences. For more information about the Safe Softball program, please visit <https://www.usasoftball.com/safe-softball/>.

All event staff members, coaches, and umpires are required to complete a background check, a SafeSport course, and read a copy of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPPs). These requirements meet the standards set forth by the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and the U.S. Center for SafeSport to better protect minor athletes from abuse and misconduct within sport. All event staff, coaches, and umpires are required to wear a *{{type of credential}}* for the duration of the event.

Upon arrival, you will be asked to check in and show a photo ID. Acceptable forms of photo ID include a driver's license or passport. If you have completed all compliance items, you will be given your credential. The credential is to be worn for the entire event. You must have your credential out and visible to access the dugouts or any other training spaces. If you have not completed all compliance items, you will be asked to do so upon check in, and once completed, you will receive your credential. Please note, the background check must be completed ahead of time, you will not be allowed to participate if your background check is in "pending" status.

Please make sure you read and review the MAAPPs before *{{Event Name}}* begins. A copy of the MAAPPs is attached for your reference. Below are some of the MAAPPs components and resources that we'd like to highlight for you.

MAAPPs – at – a – Glance

- One – On – One Interactions
 - All one – on – one interaction between Adult Participants (adult event staff, coaches, and umpires) and minor athletes must be observable and interruptible.
- Athletic Training Modalities, Massages, and Rubdowns
 - Athletic Training must always be done with at least two adult participants present during treatment.
 - The trainer must receive documented consent from the athletes' parents/guardians.

- The Trainer must narrate the steps in the modality before taking them, seeking assent of the Minor Athlete throughout the process.
- During treatment, a minor athlete's breast, buttocks, groin, and genitals must always be covered.
- Parents/Guardians must be allowed to attend treatment unless in a restricted area.
- Electronic Communications
 - All electronic communications must be open and transparent
 - Communication between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must include a parent/guardian, another family member of the Minor Athlete, or another adult participant
 - This includes communications started by a minor athlete
 - If communicating with a team, adult participants must include the Minor Athletes' parents/guardians or another Adult Participant

How to Report Abuse

- All Adult Participants are mandatory reporters. If you have experienced abuse or misconduct or know of abuse or misconduct that has taken place at a USA Softball event, please report the incident to any of the USA Softball representatives listed below, fill out USA Softball's Online Reporting Form (can be done anonymously), or submit a report to the U.S. Center for SafeSport. The U.S. Center for SafeSport accepts all reports of sexual abuse and child abuse within the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement.
 - Allison Takeda Flaig – Chief Operating Officer
aflaig@usasoftball.com
 (405) 425 – 3430
 - Jessie Undem – Manager, Athlete Safety and Screening
jundem@usasoftball.com
 (405) 425 – 3459
 - [Online Reporting Form](#)
 - [U.S. Center for SafeSport Reporting](#)

Additionally, both Parent and Minor Athlete abuse awareness training, as well as other training, are available through the U.S. Center for SafeSport and can be found at safesporttrained.org.

Please see the attached SafeSoftball Handbook PDF that outlines the athlete safety requirements, Ineligible list, and how to report abuse.

If you have any questions, please let me know.