

## INTRODUCTION

USA Basketball is committed to creating and maintaining a sport community where all those who participate can work and learn together in an atmosphere free from all forms of emotional, physical, and sexual misconduct. This USA Basketball Participant Safety & Protection Handbook (the “Handbook”) discusses prohibited misconduct, minor abuse protection policies, background screening, education, response, and resolution.

In addition to the policies in this Handbook, USA Basketball has adopted the SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement (the “Code”) and its appendices (collectively, the “Code”) issued, as it may be amended from time to time, by the U.S. Center for SafeSport. To the extent any USA Basketball rule, practice, policy, or procedure, (“USAB rule”) is inconsistent with the Code, rules, policies or procedures of the U.S. Center for SafeSport, such USA Basketball rule is hereby superseded by the applicable Code provision.

Individuals within USA Basketball’s jurisdiction and/or disciplinary authority are responsible for knowing the information, policies, and procedures outlined in this Handbook, Code, and their related policies. Those subject to USA Basketball’s jurisdiction and/or disciplinary authority as defined in this Handbook, are subject to the rules, policies, and procedures of the U.S. Center for SafeSport (the “Center”) and shall submit, without reservation or condition, to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Center of SafeSport for the resolution of any alleged violation of the Center’s rules, policies and procedures, or the Code. Ignorance of any rule or regulation is not a defense to a violation or alleged violation of any USA Basketball rule, regulation, policy, or procedure.

**For the avoidance of doubt, a violation the Code or any of the Center’s rules, policies, and procedures, will be considered a violation of this Handbook. USA Basketball will mirror and enforce any sanction or measures imposed by the Center, whether interim, temporary, or permanent.**

USA Basketball may make changes to the Handbook, and other related rules, policies, and procedures, from time to time. Once posted online, changes are effective immediately unless otherwise noted.

Through education, resources, training, and adherence to the rules, policies, and procedures contained in the Code and this Handbook, we will help those who participate in USA Basketball’s programs prevent, recognize, reduce, and respond to misconduct in basketball and in sport. The Center’s Code may be found here: <https://uscenterforsafesport.org/response-and-resolution/safesport-code/>.

### USA Basketball National Teams

USA Basketball’s Men’s, Women’s and 3x3 teams compete on behalf of the United States in various international competitions including the Olympics, FIBA World Cups, FIBA Americas Championships, and Youth Olympic Games among other competitions. A commitment to athlete safety is a focus of our National Teams’ programs and compliance with all protocols is imperative to ensure success.

### USA Basketball Youth & Sport Development

The USA Basketball Youth & Sport Development division is tasked with the development of player development, coach education and participant safety, while promoting, growing, and elevating the game. Current youth initiatives include coach licensing and education, e-learning, youth clinics and the U.S. Open Basketball Championships. The division’s coach licensing program is focused on developing a basketball community of educated coaches and administrators while ensuring the safety of those with whom they may interact.