

MAKING A REPORT

When should I make a report of sexual misconduct?

Any adult within the jurisdiction of USA Gymnastics must report suspected child abuse and sexual abuse of a minor to both the local authorities and the U.S. Center for SafeSport immediately. You do not need to be certain that abuse has occurred to make a report.

Where should I make a report of sexual misconduct?

The U.S. Center for SafeSport has exclusive jurisdiction over all situations related to sexual misconduct. If you suspect sexual misconduct, please contact your local authorities and the [U.S. Center for SafeSport](#). All other misconduct should be reported to USA Gymnastics through our [online portal](#).

When should I make a report unrelated to sexual abuse, such as emotional misconduct, physical misconduct, bullying or harassment?

If you are aware or have been made aware that a person under the jurisdiction of USA Gymnastics has committed misconduct as described in the SafeSport Code or USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy, it's important to make a report as soon as you are made aware of such actions or behaviors.

If you suspect sexual misconduct, please contact your local authorities and the [U.S. Center for SafeSport](#)

What should I do if I suspect emotional misconduct?

If you are aware, or have been made aware, that a person under the jurisdiction of USA Gymnastics is belittling, degrading, or humiliating an athlete, or you have knowledge or reasonable suspicion that a child is suffering emotional damage or is at substantial risk of suffering serious emotional damage, evidenced by states of being or behavior, including but not limited to, severe anxiety, depression, withdrawal, or untoward aggressive behavior toward self or others, it is important to make a report. All suspected emotional misconduct should be reported to USA Gymnastics through our [online portal](#).

It is also important to alert club management if you suspect possible emotional misconduct by a staff member, so the management may determine an immediate course of action. Member Clubs are encouraged to take immediate action consistent with their own policies.

Questions to consider if you suspect emotional misconduct:

1. Has this instance occurred more than once?
2. Are there repeated examples of humiliation, degradation, body shaming or discriminatory actions?
3. Have there been repeated instances of name-calling, screaming, or offhanded jokes directed at the athlete(s)?
4. Are basic needs such as water, bathroom breaks, or medical care ignored or denied as a means of punishment?
5. Have there been times when items have been thrown at the athlete(s) in the presence of athletes, that would cause a reasonable person to be fearful?
6. Do the athletes, other staff members, or parents express a sense of "walking on eggshells" while they are around the person in question?
7. Has this situation been brought to the attention of the management of the gym?

I'm not sure my concern should be reported. What should I do?

If you are unsure if your concern is reportable under the SafeSport Code or the USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy, it is best to make the report anyway and allow either the U.S. Center for SafeSport or USA Gymnastics to determine the next course of action. If you have questions, you can reach out to the Safe Sport department at safesportpolicy@usagym.org to set up a time to discuss your concern.

What can USA Gymnastics disclose in reference to reports?

Unless required by law, USA Gymnastics will respect requests for privacy when reports are submitted and will notify those making a report before the reported information is shared with the person accused. Circumstances may arise where USA Gymnastics is unable to proceed in the Safe Sport process without disclosing the report and/or identity of the reporter.

To ensure athlete safety, USA Gymnastics provides notice of measures or sanctions issued by USA Gymnastics or the U.S. Center for SafeSport to individuals on a need-to-know basis. We notify the owner of the club or

MAKING A REPORT

organization for which the respondent is employed and/or was employed at the time of the allegations, USA Gymnastics Chief Programs Officer, USA Gymnastics program leadership, as well as the respondent's regional and state chair. USA Gymnastics reserves the right to copy or notify any parent, administrator, professional member, or adult in the respondent's club should we deem it necessary to ensure athlete safety for reasons including, but not limited to, administrative inaccuracies or ongoing matters with USA Gymnastics Safe Sport or the U.S. Center for SafeSport.

USA Gymnastics will maintain the confidentiality of the Claimants at all times and will not share information between witnesses, the Respondent or Member Club.

Can I find out if a report has been made on my child's gym or coach?

The U.S. Center for SafeSport and USA Gymnastics publish suspensions or restrictive measures, as well as individuals who are ineligible for membership. In all other instances, USA Gymnastics will not release information on a report. USA Gymnastics will protect the privacy of the person making the report and must determine that reports are reliable before taking any public action. You can find suspension and permanently ineligible members through the following sites:

- [U.S. Center for SafeSport's Centralized Disciplinary Database](#)
- [USA Gymnastics Permanently Ineligible Member list](#)
- [USA Gymnastics Suspended Members/Members with Restrictions](#)

What happens after I make a report to the U.S. Center for SafeSport?

The U.S. Center for SafeSport has exclusive jurisdiction over all matters related to sexual misconduct and child abuse. The Center will make all decisions related to the investigation and resolution of matters reported to the Center.

When the Center for SafeSport takes exclusive or discretionary jurisdiction, USA Gymnastics will receive a notice that jurisdiction has been exercised. The Center also notifies USA Gymnastics of any temporary measures or sanctions issued, which will be published on the USA Gymnastics website. At the conclusion of a matter, USA Gymnastics receives notice that the matter is closed, or a final decision has been reached.

Federal law prohibits USA Gymnastics from discussing any details of matters under the Center's jurisdiction. All questions should be directed to the Center's Resource & Process Advisor at either Resource.Advisor@safesport.org or 720.531.9024.

What happens after I make a report to USA Gymnastics?

Once a report is made to USA Gymnastics, it will be evaluated for criteria within the SafeSport Code and USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy. USA Gymnastics Safe Sport uses a [5-Tier System](#) to assess each report to identify those reports that need immediate attention, allocate investigative resources, and determine an appropriate resolution.

Based on the tier assigned, a report could be returned to the Member Club for follow-up, assigned to a USA Gymnastics Investigator, or submitted to the local authorities and the U.S. Center for SafeSport.

The [USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Investigation and Resolution Procedures](#) fully explains the process for resolution of a case.

My concern is not covered under the Safe Sport Policy. Can I still make a report?

The authority of USA Gymnastics does not extend to involvement in employment matters between a club and its employees, misunderstandings associated with fees, gym cleanliness, equipment issues, matters under the jurisdiction of the local Health Department or disagreements related to team selection, competitive progression and/or scores. Parents and club personnel are encouraged to work together to solve problems before they escalate.

What if I receive a report second-hand and am not sure what really happened?

If you are made aware of misconduct, regardless of how the information was received, it is important to evaluate the information based on its content and make the report to either the U.S. Center for SafeSport, local authorities, or USA Gymnastics. You do not need to witness misconduct to make the report.

May I file an anonymous report?

Yes, however if additional information is needed and cannot be obtained due to the anonymity of the reporter, the report might be administratively closed with no further action taken.