

Professional Photography/Video Policy at Sanctioned Events -Update

Independent Photographer/Videographer (non-USA Gymnastics Premier event)

- Independent Photographer/Videographer NOT associated with a third-party vendor must become **Instructor Member**, which requires completion of USA Gymnastics background check and U110: U.S. Center for SafeSport Core course.
- The meet director and/or host club should have a written agreement directly with the individual photographer/videographer that explains their role and expectations for the event.
- Independent Photographer/Videographer and meet director and/or host club are responsible for following the Safe Sport Policy related to Photography and Videography. That policy can be found on page 15 of the [Safe Sport Policy](#).
- Meet Directors are required to confirm that the Independent Photographer/Videographer is an Instructor Member.
- The Independent Photographer/Videographer must present their Instructor membership card that reflects current U110: U.S. Center for SafeSport training and Background Check certification.
- The Independent Photographer and meet director and/or host club are responsible for obtaining any required consent and/or authorization to photograph individuals or locations.

Third Party Photography/Videography Vendor (non-USA Gymnastics Premier event)

- Third-Party Photography/Videography vendors are defined as companies that have contracted 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 an **Instructor 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 request, that all Third-Party Vendor staff assigned to such events have successfully passed a background check screening consistent with [USA Gymnastics Criminal Background Screening Policy](#). *Please note, USA Gymnastics cannot conduct a background check screening on anyone not a member of USA Gymnastics. Therefore, vendors should refrain from instructing staff to contact USA Gymnastics to complete their screenings. Rather, the vendor is responsible for ensuring that they, as a business practice, have completed a background check screening on their employees. Vendors who do not currently conduct background check screenings on their employees, are encouraged to seek background check screening services to establish a program for their business.*
- The meet director and/or host club should have a written agreement directly with the Third-Party Photography/Videography Vendor that explains their role and expectations for the event.
- The Third-Party Photography/Videography Vendor and meet director are responsible for following the Safe Sport Policy related to the Photography and Videography. That policy can be found on page 15 of the [Safe Sport Policy](#).
- The Third-Party Photography/Videography Vendor and meet director or host club are responsible for obtaining any required consent or authorization to photograph individuals or locations.

Clarification of Photo/Video Equipment Usage by Spectators Attending a Local/Invitational Sanctioned Event

USA Gymnastics does not set rules and regulations regarding photography/videography equipment used by spectators at non-premier USA Gymnastics event; e.g., local/invitational sanctioned events. Meet Directors have and are given the authority to set photography/videography policies depending on the individual environmental conditions of each sanctioned event for they serve as the meet director.

Medical Personnel Policy at a Sanctioned Events- Update

Core Medical Providers

- Core Medical Providers are individual medical providers who contract directly with the meet director and/or host club to provide medical services at a USA Gymnastics sanctioned event.
- Core Medical Providers must be **Instructor Members** of USA Gymnastics, which requires completion of USA Gymnastics background check and U110: U.S. Center for SafeSport Core course.
- Core Medical Providers must submit to the Meet Director proof of Instructor membership and appropriate medical licenses and credentials.

Third Party Medical Vendors

- Third-Party Medical Vendors are organizations that have contracted with a meet director and/or host club to provide medical services and assign staff to provide said services at a sanctioned event.
- 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 upon request, that all

Third-Party Vendor staff assigned to such events have successfully passed a background check screening consistent with [USA Gymnastics Criminal Background Screening Policy](#) and are appropriately medically licensed.

- The meet director and/or host club should have a written agreement directly with the Third-Party Medical Vendors that explains their role and expectations for the event.

Clarification of the One-on-one Travel Policy Between Coaches and Athletes

The one-on-one policy always applies, including daily transportation to and from regular activities. Absent emergency circumstances, adult professional and instructor members of USA Gymnastics shall not ride in a vehicle alone with a single unrelated Minor Athlete.

A member club MAY deviate from the USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy for the limited purpose of airline travel or local travel with parental consent. The Member Club exercising this option must:

- Indemnify USA Gymnastics from all liability, and must execute the Indemnification form found at <https://usagym.org/PDFs/safesport/indemnification.pdf>
- Submit the Indemnification form to MBusby@usagym.org, where it will be filed with your club membership agreement.
- The parent(s) or legal guardian(s), the Authorized Agent for Club, and the unrelated adult must sign the written consent and original kept on file with the Member Club and a copy submitted to USA Gymnastics.
- Parents and Minor Athletes involved must take the U.S. Center for SafeSport's course on recognizing and responding to signs of abuse. This course can be found at <https://uscenterforsafesport.org/training-and-education/training-and-education-services/>

Clarification of the Parental Access to Training Policy

Per USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy, all member clubs must permit parents and guardians access to training sessions.

For clarification:

- Clubs **CAN** set parameters related to viewing times based on space available, parental behavior during practice sessions or behavior of the athlete while the parents are viewing.
- Club **CANNOT** ban all team parents from viewing of practices. Rather, clubs **CAN** develop a schedule that allows for team parents to rotate in-person parental viewing of practice.
- Club **CANNOT** physically prevent a parent from entering a building where their child is located; e.g., locking business doors to prevent parental access to the building.
- Clubs **CAN** should a parent create a disruptive club environment for staff, athletes or other clientele, establish an alternative viewing opportunity, such as closed-circuit video viewing, and/or assigning another family member to view practice. Please note, a club must provide fair notice and process to any parent that they will be denying the ability to physically witness practice.

USA Gymnastics encourages member clubs and parents to work together to find solutions to issues related to access to training. Additionally, it is considered a best practice that the age of the athlete and social/emotional development of that athlete is considered when setting parameters around parental viewing. Listening to parental concerns is paramount to finding equitable solutions, especially if the child is very young, new to the team environment, or presents with a learning disability or other developmental challenges.

Questions/Concerns:

- Please contact the USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Department via email at safesportpolicy@usagym.org or call 833-844-7233 for any questions or concerns.