



## **POTOMAC VALLEY** SWIMMING

Potomac Valley Swimming  
Safe Sport Report as of 6-April- 2022, Kelly Opipari

### **What is Safe Sport Certified?**

The USA Swimming Safe Sport Club Recognition program allows a USA Swimming member club to demonstrate its commitment to creating a healthy and positive environment free from abuse for all its members through the development and implementation of club governance measures, Safe Sport policies and reporting mechanisms, Safe Sport best practices and training to athletes and parents. USA Swimming is committed to providing a healthy and positive environment free from abuse for all its members. USA Swimming's Safe Sport program, a comprehensive abuse prevention program, consists of a multi-layered approach to keep kids safe, including: required policies and best practice guidelines; mandatory screening, including criminal background checks and employment screening; training and education; monitoring, supervision and mandatory reporting. These measures are informed by experts in the field of child safety and are among the strongest safeguards found in youth-serving organizations.

### **Potomac Valley Swimming and Safe Sport**

As of April 1, 2022 52.27% of the USA Swimming member clubs in Potomac Valley Swimming achieved Safe Sport Club Recognition. Our percentage of clubs certified as Safe Sport has decreased since July 2021. Three teams that were formerly certified did not renew their certification.

Each PVS team should have already received a pop-up changing tent from USA Swimming. Any club that is currently Safe Sport certified, becomes Safe Sport certified or renews their certification will receive a second pop up changing tent.

### **Potomac Valley Safe Sport Certified Clubs**

All-Star Aquatics, Blue Wave Swim Team, DC Parks & Recreation, Dragon Swim Team, Fairfax Foxes, Herndon Aquatic Club, Hydro-Sonic, Joe Flaherty's Dolphins, Mason Makos Swim Team, Maryland Suburban Swim Club, Moons Aquatics Club, Occoquan Swimming, Patuxent Aquatics Club, Potomac Marlins, Riptide Swim Team, Sea Devil Swimming, Shark Tank Racing Squad, SNOW Swimming, The FISH, Tollefson

Swimming, Victory Lane Aquatic Club, Washingtonians Swim Club, and York Swim Club.

### **Potomac Valley Clubs Who've Started the Process**

Arlington Aquatic Club, Ailynn Park Aquatic Club & Clinic, Elite Rays Swim Club, Fairfax Area Aquatics, Lifetime, Machine Aquatics, Rockville Montgomery Swim Club , YMCA Fairfax County Reston, and Team Rally Aquatics

### **Best practices to get your Club Safe Sport Certified**

1. Use the PVS Safe Sport page to help with the process-  
<http://www.pvswim.org/safesport.html>
2. Designate a coach or parent to work together to get your team Safe Sport certified. If you have more than one practice site, consider a parent coordinator for each site.
3. Tie the required parent education component to yearly registration or meet registration.
4. Provide clear instructions on how to take the parent/swimmer Safe Sport class, using materials available on the PVS Safe Sport page, <http://www.pvswim.org/safesport.html>

See attachment: Safe Sport Club Recognition Training Opportunities



### **Safe Sport Club Recognition Training Opportunities**

USA Swimming encourages member clubs to utilize this time away from practice and competition to complete the requirements of the USA Swimming Safe Sport Club Recognition program.

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This resource is intended to provide guidance on the various remote Safe Sport Club Recognition training options available to athletes and parents while maintaining social distance. For additional information on the Safe Sport Club Recognition requirements, please visit [www.usaswimming.org/ssrp](http://www.usaswimming.org/ssrp).

#### **USA Swimming Safe Sport Zoom Trainings**

1. Starting April 2020, the USA Swimming Safe Sport staff has been hosting Zoom trainings for parents, minor athletes and coaches to assist clubs in completing the Training and Education requirement of the Safe Sport Club Recognition program.

Please see the upcoming 2022 training schedule below which will also be communicated via email, newsletters, and social media.

#### **Parent Trainings:**

- Tuesday, April 5 at 8:00 p.m. ET [Register Here](#)
- Wednesday, May 4 at 8:00 p.m. ET [Register Here](#)
- Wednesday, June 8 at 8:00 p.m. ET [Register Here](#)

#### **Athlete Trainings (12-17 years old):**

- Wednesday, April 6 at 8:00 p.m. ET [Register Here](#)
- Thursday, May 5 at 8:00 p.m. ET [Register Here](#)
- Thursday, June 9 at 8:00 p.m. ET [Register Here](#)

#### **Coaches Training:**

- Thursday, April 7 at 3:00 p.m. ET [Register Here](#)
- Friday, May 6 at 3:00 p.m. ET [Register Here](#)
- Friday, June 10 at 3:00 p.m. ET [Register Here](#)

2. Attendance at these sessions is limited to 500 participants. The training session will be secured five minutes after starting.
3. USA Swimming Safe Sport staff will record attendance and manually update the Club Portal.

#### **Virtual Team Meeting**

USA Swimming member clubs are seeking unique opportunities to remain connected with athletes and parents. One unique way to remain connected and complete the training component of Safe Sport Club Recognition is to host a virtual training.

1. Schedule a virtual meeting for either parents or athletes to attend.
2. Access the USA Swimming LEARN platform via [www.usaswimming.org/learn](http://www.usaswimming.org/learn).
  - Enter your last name, first name and date of birth into the search parameters boxes. Click "Search"



- Click “Continue” next to your name
  - Click “Go to Learn”
  - Select “Courses” at the top
    - For a parent training, select Parent’s Guide to Misconduct in Sport
    - For an athlete training, select Safe Sport for Athletes
3. Conduct a virtual meeting with athletes or parents by sharing your screen and viewing the training course together. When you share your screen, ensure that you also share the sound from your device so those watching can hear the training audio.
  4. Record attendance. A simple way to do this is to have participants send their name to the training host using a chat function.
  5. Send the attendance record to [ssrp@usaswimming.org](mailto:ssrp@usaswimming.org). USA Swimming staff will manually update the Club Portal.

Reminder: A virtual meeting with minor athletes is an electronic communication and the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy requirements apply:

- If you are meeting with only one athlete, that athlete’s guardian/parent must also be included.
- If you are meeting with multiple athletes, another adult must also be included.
- The meeting must be held between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

[Note: USA Swimming secured Zoom ‘Enterprise’ licenses for USA Swimming clubs for a 90-day period. Access requests should be sent to Paula D’Amico at [pdamico@usaswimming.org](mailto:pdamico@usaswimming.org). For information on how to secure a Zoom meeting: <https://www.usaswimming.org/news-landing-page/2020/04/07/how-to-secure-your-team's-zoom-meetings>]

### **USA Swimming LEARN Platform**

Athletes and parents can independently complete the training sessions using the USA Swimming LEARN platform.

For athletes:

1. Visit [www.usaswimming.org/learn](http://www.usaswimming.org/learn).
2. Enter your first name, last name and date of birth into the search parameters boxes. Click “Search”.
3. Click “Continue” next to your name.
4. Click “Go to Learn”.
5. Select “Courses” at the top.
6. For athletes ages 12-18, click on the Safe Sport for Athletes course and complete the course using the prompts.
7. For athletes over the age of 18, click on SafeSport Training for Adult Athletes.

For parents:

1. Visit <https://learn.usaswimming.org/>
2. Click “Register”.
3. Click “Create Account” in the Non-Member Access box.
4. Follow the prompts to register an account.
5. Click “Courses.”
6. In Parent’s Guide to Misconduct in Sport, select “Add Course”.
7. Select the Parent’s Guide to Misconduct in Sport course to start.
8. Complete the course using the prompts.