



## USA Swimming Safe Sport Recognized Program

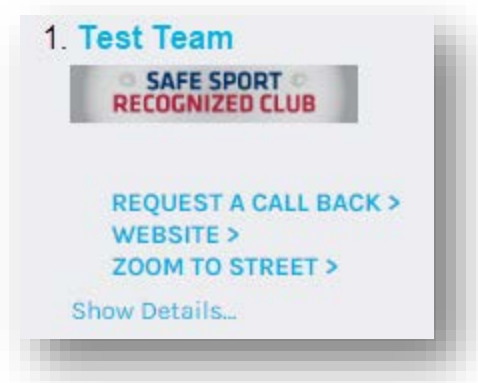
Description: USA Swimming member clubs consistently embrace Safe Sport abuse prevention measures and educational resources. The Safe Sport Recognized Club Program (“SSRP”) allows a USA Swimming member club to publicly demonstrate its unwavering commitment to creating an abuse-free, safe, healthy and positive environment for all its members through the implementation of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy, Anti-Bullying measures, Safe Sport Best Practices and Athlete Protection Training.

Using a web-based tool, member clubs can achieve SSRP status by detailing club procedures, uploading policies and verifying education and training efforts. SSRP designation is valid for a period of two years and a designated club will be eligible to re-apply for recognition. SSRP clubs will earn a badge to display on the club website and will be designated as Safe Sport Recognized on the USA Swimming Find A Team online search tool.

### Facts:

- Voluntary, no-cost program available to all USA Swimming member clubs.
- Completed online via the Club Portal at [www.usaswimming.org/ssrp](http://www.usaswimming.org/ssrp).
- Renewed every two years.
- Earns a Safe Sport Recognized Club designation.
- Focuses on team policies, procedures and educational engagement to implement Safe Sport and engage in best practices that safeguard against abuse.
- Contains both required and elective criteria in 30 areas including:
  - Business/Organizational Success
  - Parent/Volunteer Empowerment
  - Coach Education and Development
  - Athlete Education and Development
- Demonstrates a club’s commitment to providing an abuse-free environment for all participants including coaches, athletes, parents and volunteers.

### Find A Team Tool



### Website Badge





## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q:** What is the process for receiving Safe Sport Recognition?

**A:** The club admin will log into the club portal and complete the criteria for Safe Sport Recognition, including all the required measures, as well as a selection of elective measures to fulfill point requirements. NOTE: If you need assistance in accessing your club portal please reference the guide at [www.usaswimming.org/ssrp](http://www.usaswimming.org/ssrp). After the club admin submits the form online, it will be reviewed by Safe Sport staff. This can take up to a week. Staff will either approve the Recognition or send it back with notes for improvement. Once the Recognition is approved, the club will receive notification and a logo to display on their website. Within 24 hours, the Find A Team tool will begin showing the club as Safe Sport Recognized.

**Q:** Is there a performance component to the Safe Sport Recognition Program?

**A:** No. Times and IMX scores are not a factor for the Safe Sport Recognition Program. Clubs serving all levels of athletes are eligible to pursue this recognition.

**Q:** How is the training component measured?

**A:** This is an automatic process based on how many individuals completed the “Safe Sport for Athletes” and “Parents Guide to Misconduct in Sport.” courses on LEARN. Clubs can earn more point for having a larger proportion of their club complete these courses. The proportion is based on the number of registered households within a club, and at least 10% participation is required to receive points.

**Q:** Can we do trainings in groups?

**A:** Yes! In fact, this will make completing the education component easier to fulfil. Do the athlete or parent training as a big group. Take attendance, which includes the date, names of those in attendance, and the team name, and send it to USA Swimming at [ssrp@usaswimming.org](mailto:ssrp@usaswimming.org) and we will manually upload the correct numbers of those trained.

**Q:** Do I have to do it all at once?

**A:** No, it's possible to start Safe Sport Recognition and come back to it at any time via the club portal.

**Q:** Does becoming a Safe Sport Recognized Club mean that we will never have instances of misconduct?

**A:** Unfortunately, no. However, becoming a Safe Sport Recognized Club ensures that you're as prepared as possible to mitigate risk and respond to any inappropriate behavior or misconduct. By creating a structure through policies, guidelines, and procedures—and training the coaches, athletes, and parent/volunteers on Safe Sport—you've created a shared commitment to do everything you can to create a safe, healthy, and positive environment for all participants.

**Q:** Does becoming an SSRP mean that I don't need to talk about Safe Sport or do other Safe Sport education anymore?

**A:** No! Becoming SSRP means the club has taken proactive steps to create a culture of Safe Sport in the club. Keep talking about it, regularly engage athletes in discussion, review Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention and Anti-Bullying policies regularly and refer to best practices when issues arise.

**Q:** What happens if misconduct occurs at a Safe Sport Recognized club?

**A:** Clubs will rely on their team policies to manage minor misconduct and team policy violations. If a more serious report of misconduct occurs, clubs will be offered a post incident analysis implemented by USA Swimming Safe Sport to restore safety.