

Safe Sport Report
HOD
October 10, 2015

Rules and Regulations: Deck Changing Policy: A reminder that deck changing is not acceptable. The focus should be on educating members that deck changing is not acceptable and can put athletes at risk. The following is provided to LSC's for consideration in handling deck changing:

1. Officials eyes should be on the pool and not looking for swimmers who might be deck changing.
2. Should deck changing be observed, officials should not attempt to intervene to stop it, but rather note the gender and team of the swimmer as well as the location of the deck change. Report this information to the Referee when time permits. The Referee should work with the Meet Director and/or facility staff to communicate with the coach of the swimmers(s) that were deck changing. The communication should provide the information and ask for the coach's cooperation to get the swimmers to change in the designated areas in the facility.
3. Meet Directors and Referees should ensure that the Meet Marshalls and host facility staff are aware that swimmers should only be changing in designated changing facilities. Meet Marshalls and facility staff should not intervene directly with swimmers that are changing, rather, they should note the gender and team of the swimmer as well as the location of the deck change and deal directly with the coach in question.
4. If the coach of the swimmers is uncooperative regarding requests to comply with getting swimmers to change in designated changing areas, report details of the instance to the LSC Safe Sport Chair and General Chair for follow-up.

USAS Convention Information:

2015-2016 Program Goals: Efforts will be focused on the goal to INCREASE LOCAL LEVEL ENGAGEMENT. This will be done through three strategies:

1. To increase in number and empower the existing Safe Sport Champions.
2. To encourage and support club leadership.
3. To activate swim meets as parent engagement opportunities.

Workshops:

1. LGBTQ Athletes: Promoting Equal Access, Safety and Support – Presented by Chris Downs of the Downs Group. This workshop focused on inclusion and support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. Ways to address homophobia, LGBTQ language, stereotypes and “coming out” issues were highlighted.

2. Handling a Safe Sport Complaint: You are the club's Board President. You check your email before bed one night to find a serious bullying complaint. What now? It was an interactive workshop that had participants up and moving around the room as we navigated effective (and ineffective) complaints management.

Programs offered through Safe Sport:

1. APT Renewal Course: September 1, 2015.
2. Athlete Fellowship Program: The Safe Sport Fellowship is a year-long leadership development program designed for athlete members of USA Swimming who wish to be more involved in the governance of the organization with particular emphasis on Safe Sport. Fellows will work closely with Safe Sport staff members to develop projects to bring the Safe Sport message to local swim clubs and increase awareness of the Safe Sport movement. Three Leadership Institutes anchor the Fellowship, where fellows will have the opportunity

to dive deeper into leadership development practices and set personal goals. Athletes aged 15 and older are eligible to apply.

Safe Sport Education:

1. Reminder for athletes, parents, and coaches about the free education available to them. You can find many educational resources on the USA Swimming website.
2. Online Anti-bullying course: The course was launched in July. It is a course designed to help parents and coaches identify and address bullying behaviors. Bullying behaviors can lead to a negative team environment if not handled properly and quickly.
3. Swim Staff Select: A free online tool to assist clubs in their hiring of staff.

Table Kit; Opportunity to discuss Safe Sport at meets. They have put together a kit that includes a tablecloth, stickers and parent flyers all of which offer the opportunity for education and conversation.

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