

GIVE.



VOLUNTEER MANUAL



CARE.

DISABLED
ATHLETE
SPORTS
ASSOCIATION

WIN.



dasasports.org

Welcome Letter

Welcome to the DASA Family!

We would like to thank you for agreeing to volunteer with the Disabled Athlete Sports Association and supporting the athletes and their achievements. Your generosity to volunteer will allow us to continue helping local athletes with physical, visual, and hearing disabilities discover abilities that will take them to places even we might not have imagined possible.

Over the past 20 years, we have watched many DASA athletes find themselves accomplishing astonishing feats. We have witnessed the therapeutic effect of swimming lessons help a child learn to talk. We have championed athletes from learning to play sled hockey to representing our country in the Paralympics. These feats would not have been possible without the hard work of our volunteers!

We never tire from witnessing children and adults discover they are capable of so much more than what our society often tells them, but as an organization, we are far from crossing any finish lines. We are happy that you have joined our team on this journey to continue providing more, and more opportunities for people with disabilities not only to become athletes, but to seek and find independence, self-confidence, and success on the playing field that is life.

Details of Our Organization

Our Mission

Through adaptive sports and fitness, DASA empowers individuals with disabilities to find their inner athlete.

Our Vision

We envision a society free of barriers where a person with a disability grows, plays and succeeds in life.

Our Philosophy

Motivational Opportunities and Rehabilitative Exercise (M.O.R.E.)

The M.O.R.E. concept is a strategy DASA utilizes to promote overall health and

wellness, improve strength and endurance, and enhance learning best practices for daily functional activities such as transfers and chair mobility, among other abilities necessary for increased independence and a higher quality of life.

Through involvement in sport and fitness, clients/athletes decrease the risk of common ailments - such as pressure sores, bladder infections, weight gain, or loss of strength and endurance - all associated with a sedentary lifestyle or the result of a lack of necessary therapy that is vital to staying fit.

DASA hopes to encourage a holistic, healthy lifestyle through a family-friendly environment implemented by the M.O.R.E. concept, and therefore empower individuals with physical disabilities to live to the best of their natural abilities with greater emotional and physical well-being.

Our Athletes

DASA recruits cognitively age-appropriate individuals 5 years of age and older living with permanent physical, visual, and hearing disabilities who have difficulty participating in sports with their non-disabled peers.

DASA Athletes' Disabilities vary, but include:

- Cerebral Palsy
- Hypotonia
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Spina Bifida
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Amputation
- Deaf, or Hard of Hearing
- Visual Impairment
- Epilepsy
- and more...

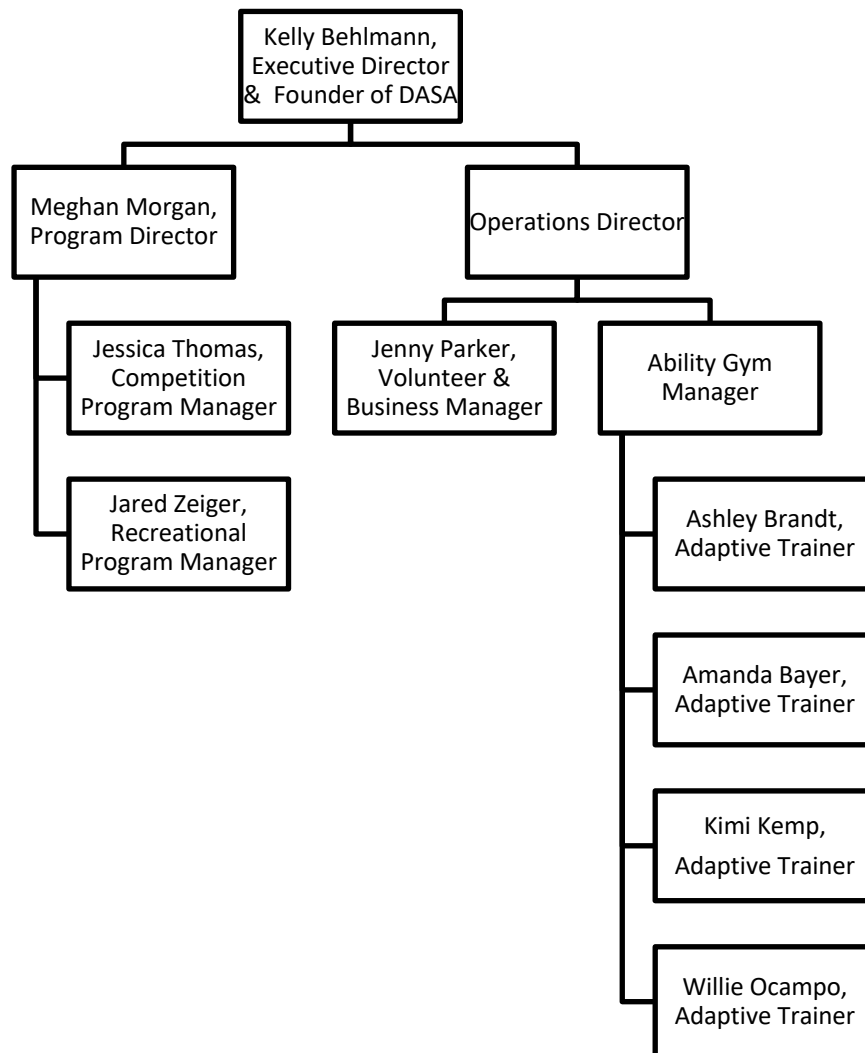
Our Inspiration

In 1997, Kelly Behlmann gave physical therapy to children with disabilities. Kelly dreamed of providing an affordable service to her kiddos that emphasized the abilities

each child had rather than focusing on their disabilities.

What began as a dream has gone far beyond anything Kelly could have EVER imagined. While DASA maintains its original goals and core values, the organization has since expanded into a successful sports club, grooming national champions, international record-breakers, and Paralympic gold-medalists. Along the way, DASA has also started community education programs, personal care training, and social outlets for youth with disabilities - as well as their families.

Organizational Chart/ Staff or Volunteer Listing



Covid Policy

Please read through the current COVID rules for DASA Athletes, volunteers & staff:

1. For indoor programs:
 - a. Masks must be worn by everyone during the duration of the program, regardless of vaccination status.
 - i. If there are less than 6 athletes and athletes can be distanced 6 feet apart for the entirety of the program, then masks are optional for athletes during activity.
 - b. Masks are strongly encouraged to be worn by all parents who stay to watch, regardless of vaccination status. We encourage, if possible, to limit it to just one parent coming with the athlete to do our best with social distancing.
 - c. Volunteers and staff are required to wear masks at all times, regardless of vaccination status.
2. For pool programs:
 - a. Masks must be worn by everyone as they enter the pool area.
 - b. Athletes must take their mask off before entering the pool.
 - c. Masks are strongly encouraged to be worn by all parents who stay to watch, regardless of vaccination status. We encourage, if possible, to limit it to just one parent coming with the athlete to do our best with social distancing in the pool house
 - d. Volunteers and staff will all be wearing a clear face shield, or masks when outside the pool, for the entire duration of the swim program, regardless of vaccination status.
3. For outdoor programs:
 - a. Masks must be worn when athletes and volunteers are gathered in a small group.
 - b. Athletes may remove masks while being active.
 - c. Parents are strongly encouraged to wear masks while watching or do their best to social distance themselves.
 - d. Volunteers and staff are required to wear masks at all times, regardless of vaccination status.
4. Safety precautions:
 - a. Anyone (athlete, volunteer, staff) testing positive, regardless of vaccination status, must quarantine for 10 days prior to returning to the sport in any capacity (practice, tournament, fundraiser). Individuals should continue to follow the DASA protocols for mask wearing upon returning to programs.

- b. For persons who have been **exposed** to COVID but are **ASYMPTOMATIC** (meaning truly no symptoms of COVID...
 - i. If you are:
 - 1. Vaccinated: no quarantine is needed and you must continue to follow the DASA protocols for mask wearing and continue active symptom monitoring. If you develop ANY symptoms of COVID, please let Meghan know immediately.
 - 2. Not vaccinated; you must quarantine for 5 days from exposure; you can return to programs on day 6; you must continue to follow the DASA protocols for mask wearing upon returning to programs; and continue active symptom monitoring. If you develop ANY symptoms of COVID, please let Meghan know immediately.
5. Vaccination Requirements:
- a. DASA Staff & Volunteers are required to be vaccinated and must submit copies of their vaccination cards to covid@dasasports.org. New volunteers may simply upload them while completing their New Volunteer Application Form (STL: <https://airtable.com/shrPYqJg4YyTy1Uab>; COMO: <https://airtable.com/shrl6QS4cOHm3Nixc>)

In all cases of exposure or positive test results, please notify your supervisor, coach, program lead immediately. Coaches & leads must report this information to DASA Staff. Contact tracing may be necessary.

The Importance of the Volunteer

DASA Programs cannot occur without the help of our volunteers! Our athletes need you as a volunteer and you as a volunteer need our athletes! We can guarantee that your life will change because you are a DASA volunteer! You will teach them as much as they teach you.

Confidentiality

All volunteers are asked to complete DASA's Volunteer Application. DASA does not share this information with other organizations or third parties. This information is used by DASA for reasonable informational and emergency purposes.

Communications

DASA communicates with volunteers primarily through email and the GroupMe App. Volunteers are required to check their email and their GroupMe app on a regular basis and reply when requested in a timely manner. If necessary texting or calling can occur but email and GroupMe is preferred as numerous volunteers are being contacted for each program.

If you are no longer able to make it to an event or a session, you are required to communicate AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to the lead DASA staff and the lead Program Staff.

Information on all programs can be found on DASA's website (www.dasasports.org), on DASA's calendar, and on DASA's Facebook page (Disabled Athlete Sports Association).

Emergency Procedures

When arriving at the facility make yourself aware of emergency exits and storm shelters. Assign a lead parent or someone besides yourself to take attendance and speak to other parents and athletes in the case you are taken away from the practice field.

- Fill out an incident report with the most detail possible (see Appendix C).
- Contact parents or Guardian in case of an accident or emergency.
- Contact the lead instructor or DASA Program Manager immediately after emergency situation has been addressed.

Dealing with Media

When being interviewed or videotaped by the Media, volunteers must wear a DASA logoed shirt. Volunteers must acknowledge and mention DASA frequently in the interview. When appropriate, volunteers should recommend the interview occur with a member of the DASA organization.

Hours of Operation

As our sign says, "We're open most days about 9:00a or 10:00a. Occasionally as early

as 7:00a, but some days as late as 12:00p or 1:00p. We're closed about 5:30p or 6:00p. Occasionally about 4:00p or 5:00p, but sometimes as late as 11:00p or 12:00a."

What this means is that we are always working, sometimes we are in the office working and sometimes we are out in the community.

We can be reached by cell phone most of the time- 636-477-0716. If someone does not answer, text and leave your name, program and message.

Facility Locations

DASA OFFICE 1600 Mid Rivers Mall Ste. 2272	
DASA's ABILITY GYM- ADAPTIVE TRAINING 1600 Mid Rivers Mall, St. Peters, MO 63376 Ste. 2272	
TRACK & FIELD Parkway Central High School 369 N Woods Mill Rd, Chesterfield, MO 63017	ARCHERY St. Louis Bowhunters Club 301 Tecumseh St, St. Charles, MO 63301
SWIMMING-MON & TUES Chesterfield Athletic Club 16625 Swingley Ridge Rd, Chesterfield, MO 63017	SLED HOCKEY Wentzville Ice Arena 910 Main Plaza Dr, Wentzville, MO 63385
SWIM TEAM Ladue High School 1201 Warson Rd, St. Louis, MO 63124	SWIMMING-WED Promise Community Homes 1240 Dautel Ln, St. Louis, MO 63146
BOCCIA Central County Fire Station 109 McMenamy Rd, St. Peters, MO 63376	GOLF The Quarry at Crystal Springs 1 Crystal Springs Quarry Dr, Maryland Heights, MO
ADAPTIVE YOGA The DASA Box 1600 Mid Rivers Mall Cir, St. Peters, MO 63376	BASKETBALL Peace Lutheran Church- St. Louis 737 Barracksview Rd, St. Louis, MO 63125
POWER SOCCER-FLAMES Promise Community Homes 1240 Dautel Ln, St. Louis, MO 63146	POWER SOCCER-CYCLONES & FIRECRACKERS: Promise Community Homes 1240 Dautel Ln, St. Louis, MO 63146
ADAPTIVE ROCK CLIMBING Upper Limits – Maryland Heights 1874 Lackland Hill Pkwy, St. Louis 63146	PARALYMPIC POWERLIFTING The Ability Gym 1600 Mid Rivers Mall Circle, St. Peters, MO 63043
AIR RIFLE TBD	RUGBY St. Peters Rec-Plex 5200 Mexico Rd, St. Peters, MO 63376

Why Volunteer With This Organization?

Ask yourself why you are volunteering for DASA? Is it just to fulfill credit hours or community services? While this may be the reason why you have started the volunteering process, we at DASA expect that you are working with our athletes for more than just fulfilling an obligation. We do not allow volunteers to sit on the sidelines and simply observe our sports. If you are volunteering for DASA, you will be expected to be:

Hands-On
Creative
Engaging
Physically Active

You want to volunteer for DASA because this experience will change your life for the better! To make sure you are volunteering for the right reasons, use this table to check why you are volunteering for DASA. If you only check “Because my mom/dad/teacher etc. said I had to” or “to fulfill a requirement”, we encourage you to look elsewhere for a volunteering opportunity. We want your heart and soul to be involved in your DASA volunteering experience.

My Reasons for Wanting to Volunteer with DASA

To get out of the house	To make contacts in the disability community
To meet new people or make new friends	As an academic requirement
To establish a track record to get a new job	To be in charge of something
To try out a new career	To feel useful/needed
To build confidence/self esteem	To make a transition to a new life
As a break from other stresses in my life	To gain respect
To rebuild on old skill	To meet potential employers
To help another person	To become an “insider”
To be with friends who volunteer	To have fun
Because I don’t like to say “no”	To get to know a new community
To get recognition	As therapy
As an alternative to giving money	To learn something new
To do something I love	Because my mom/dad/teacher etc. said I had to
To fulfill a community service requirement (for school, work, church)	I believe in the cause/goals/mission of the organization and want to support it.
To test/challenge myself	To share what I know of the cause/topic
To spend quality time with family by volunteering together	To do something different than my regular job
To share my passion	Other:

Paid Staff and Volunteer Relations

Paid staff and volunteers come together at DASA to work toward achieving the mission, goals and objectives of the organization. Both contribute in significant ways and volunteers are seen to compliment the work done by paid staff. Volunteers do not replace or displace paid positions. We value the experience and insights of both paid and volunteer staff and encourage feedback about our organization, processes and programs. Such feedback can be passed through respective supervisors or addressed through a follow-up survey, if applicable.

Statement of Organization's Commitment to Volunteerism

The organization's practices ensure effective volunteer involvement. The organization commits to providing a safe and supportive environment for volunteers.

Personnel Policies

For most DASA activities, volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. If the situation is appropriate, volunteers between the ages of 10 and 15 may volunteer with the supervision of a parent.

A copy of your covid card needs to be sent to covid@dasasports.org.

Upon signing up or committing to an activity, we encourage volunteers to look closely at their calendar. For ongoing or weekly practices, DASA expects registered volunteers to be in attendance for each class in that session. We understand that things come up from time to time, but we really need consistent and committed volunteers! Please consider your schedule before registering to volunteer.

Prior to beginning the activity, all volunteers are required to sign the Disabled Athlete Sports Association Liability Waiver and Media Release (see Appendix A). The volunteer may waive the right to sign the media release, but a signed liability waiver is required.

Lead Volunteers or Coaches are required to complete a Background Check (provided by DASA) and the Safe Sport Certification. If appropriate, a copy of the driver's license must be provided. All paperwork must be submitted to the Volunteer Manager by the start of the activity.

Volunteers' Code of Conduct

All Volunteers are required to abide by DASA's General Volunteer Code of Conduct:

Take your commitment to our organization to heart, performing your duties to the best of your ability.

Honor confidentiality.

Respect the mission and goals of DASA.

Deal with conflicts or difficulties in an appropriate manner.

Respect the property of DASA.

Do not accept valuable gifts or money from athletes.

Be courteous, friendly and cooperative.

Offer constructive feedback about our organization in an appropriate manner.

Be willing to learn and take part in orientation and training sessions.

Follow through on commitments and advise your supervisor if you are unable to work as scheduled.

Demonstrate respect for the direction and decisions of your supervisor(s).

Treat co-workers (paid and unpaid), athletes and members of the public fairly and without discrimination.

When appropriate, DASA will require volunteers to complete the DASA Code of Conduct (see Appendix B).

Standard of Appearance

Dress appropriate for your duties. Many of DASA's activities are athletic in nature. At these events, athletic apparel should be worn, including closed-toed shoes. Clothes cannot be torn, frayed, dirty or reveal any part of the cleavage, midriff or buttock. If swimming is part of the activity, appropriate swimwear must be worn. For example, no speedo for men and no bikinis for women. Women may wear a full piece swim suit, a sports-bra type top and shorts, or a tankini. Make-up and jewelry must be minimal especially in regard to facial jewelry.

Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Policy.

All DASA activities are to be smoke free and alcohol free. Exceptions may be made at adult-only fundraisers. All DASA activities are to be drug free. No Exceptions.

Grievance Policy

In situations where differences arise between volunteers or between volunteers and staff it is advised to first try to resolve these differences amongst the parties involved. If a third party is needed the Program Manager/Volunteer Coordinator is to be informed and involved. Under no circumstances shall differences be made public or involve other members of the organization. If the grievance is in regard to the Program Manager, an appeal may be made to Program Director or Executive Director.

Human Rights/Sexual Harassment Policy

Volunteers are expected to read DASA policy on Abuse and Neglect (See Appendix D) and DASA's Sport Protection Plan (See Appendix E). DASA strongly encourages the reporting of misconduct. DASA appreciates your willingness to report inappropriate behavior. If you need to report any misconduct or suspected misconduct, please complete the Sport Protection Form found on DASA's Policies webpage. This form can be submitted anonymously.

Resignation/Leaving the Volunteer Program

If a volunteer is no longer able to serve, DASA asks that they notify the volunteer coordinator immediately.

DASA staff reserves the right to dismiss a volunteer if the volunteer does not abide by the organization's Code of Conduct. If the volunteer does not attend a regularly scheduled session without notification (aka no call no show) for more than 2 weeks in succession, the volunteer will be dismissed.

Immediate dismissal from DASA programs will result from:

- Disrespect of DASA Athletes and family members
- Disrespect of DASA Property
- Disrespect of DASA Staff
- Drug, Alcohol or Tobacco use at DASA Events

Insurance and Liability Coverage

DASA holds liability insurance for all paid and volunteer staff. This insurance is only validated if you have signed and dated a DSUSA waiver (Appendix A). If you feel you have a claim you must present this claim with a signed incident report to the Executive Director.

Position Descriptions

Sport: Archery

Supervisor: Jared Zieger

Responsibilities: Helping athletes load bow with arrow. Helping athletes retrieve arrows. Helping athletes aim or adjust their aim.

Bonus Skills: US Archery certifications

Sport: Boccia

Supervisor: Jared Zieger

Responsibilities: Assist athletes who use ramp. Collect balls at the end of each round.

Bonus Skills: Previous experience with boccia.

Sport: Adaptive Training

Supervisor: Meghan Morgan

Responsibilities: Assist fitness coordinators and staff with functional fitness exercises.

Bonus Skills: Background in Exercise Science or Personal Training

Sport: Golf

Supervisor: Jared Zieger

Responsibilities: Assisting lead golf instructor. Assisting golfers in learning or bettering their golf skills

Bonus Skills: Previous experience with golf.

Sport: Power Soccer

Supervisor: Jessica Thomas

Responsibilities: Assist coaches with soccer drills. Retrieve soccer balls.

Bonus Skills: Previous experience with soccer.

Sport: Rock Climbing

Supervisor: Jared Zieger

Responsibilities: Belaying climbers. Assisting belayers. Preparing athletes to climb

(secure harness).

Bonus Skills: Belay certified. Experience with adaptive climbing.

Sport: Sled Hockey

Supervisor: Jessica Thomas

Responsibilities: Assist coaches with hockey drills. Retrieving pucks. Preparing athletes to skate (securing buckets).

Bonus Skills: Experience with hockey. Ability to ice skate.

Sport: Swimming

Supervisor: Jared Zieger

Responsibilities: Work one-on-one with swimmers in the pool. Meet swimmers at their swimming level. Work on swimming goals.

Bonus Skills: Previous experience with Swimming. Certified swimming instructor. Certified lifeguard.

Sport: Tennis

Supervisor: Jared Zieger

Responsibilities: Assist tennis instructor with tennis drills. Teach tennis skills.

Bonus Skills: Previous experience with tennis.

Sport: Track & Field

Supervisor: Jessica Thomas

Responsibilities: Assist track and field coaches. Assist with running track drills. Assist with field techniques. Retrieve field implements.

Bonus Skills: Previous experience with track and field. USATF Certifications.

Sport: WC Basketball

Supervisor: Jessica Thomas

Responsibilities: Assist coaches with basketball drills. Retrieve balls.

Bonus Skills: Previous experience with basketball.

Sport: WC Rugby

Supervisor: Jessica Thomas

Responsibilities: Assist coaches with rugby drills. Retrieve balls. Help athletes with equipment at the beginning and end of practices. Clean floors after practice.

Bonus Skills: Previous experience with wheelchair rugby.

APPENDIX A

 The image part with relationship ID 6589 was not found in the file.



APPENDIX B

DASA Code of Conduct for Coaches, Instructors & Volunteers

Participation as a DASA team member is an honor and privilege. As a team/coach member, I understand that I am expected to act with honor and dignity at all times. I recognize that my behavior both inside and outside of sport reflects on the team and the program.

Our team's success depends on discipline, cooperation, and each member giving a full effort. Our team is committed to providing a supportive environment in which all participants are treated, and treat others, with respect. As a team member, I promise to behave in ways that are consistent with the values found in the code of conduct listed below.

Respectfulness

- *Speak respectfully at all times.
- *Act respectfully toward opposing players and coaches in both victory and defeat.
Use positive words and phrases whenever possible. I will not use offensive, profane, vulgar, or lewd language, cheers, comments, or gestures.
- *Avoid participating in booing, heckling, taunting or name calling of anyone involved in sport, including: teammates, coaches, opponents, officials, and spectators.
- *Accept all officials' decisions without arguing and without displaying excessive emotion or sarcastic or offensive language or body language.
- *Take care of equipment and uniform and return them in good condition at the end of the season. Athlete will be responsible for paying for any uniform or equipment that is lost or damaged beyond normal expected wear and tear.
- *Respect the personal property of others (e.g., teammates, coaches, opponents), the sports facilities used in practice and games (whether home or away), and other public and private property not directly associated with sport (e.g., the school or local community).

Responsibility

- *Exercise self-control during practice and games and in other sport-related activities.
- *Avoid showing excessive emotion, anger, frustration, or physical or verbal aggression.
- *Do not start a fight or become involved in a fight in any situation.
- *Attend 90% of scheduled practices; if a practice must be missed, let the Assistant Coach, Team Managers or DASA Program Director know as soon as possible and give the reason for absence. If a Coach misses more than two unexcused practices in a given month, the Coach will be reviewed by Program Director and reconsidered for further positions within DASA.
- *Be punctual to practice. Have equipment ready and be ready for practice no later than 15 minutes from scheduled start time.
- *Concentrate fully and exert effort to the expected level at all practices and during games and matches.

*Wear the prescribed uniform or attire for all games and team activities, including award ceremonies, publicity events, etc. As DASA will be represented when at a DASA sponsored event, attire must be appropriate without exposed body parts and inappropriate language. No other team recognition attire will be worn at a DASA sponsored event or at an activity in which DASA equipment is being used.

*Coaches will maintain communication with team managers regarding all team business regarding tournaments, practices, and players.

*When possible, travel and lodge with the team to and from games or matches and other team activities.

*During the sport season, set an example by observing the following curfews:

-Weeknights and nights before a game or match: 10:30 pm.

*Coaches should enforce the team's rules on tobacco, alcohol and controlled substance.

Caring

*Cooperate with teammates and actively support and show concern for team members in all team activities.

*Be a committed member of the team and put the needs of the team ahead of personal glory.

*Praise Athletes efforts by applauding or through other positive gestures such as high fives. Use positive words and do not criticize an athlete or use negative words to talk with or about an athlete.

Honesty

*Be open and honest with the team, and support staff. Do not lie or withhold information and volunteer relevant information without being asked. Be loyal to the team and put the needs of the team ahead of personal glory and goals.

Participation as a team member is an honor and privilege. As a team member, I understand that I am expected to act with honor and dignity at all times. I recognize that my behavior both inside and outside of sport reflects on the team and the DASA Program.

Our team's success depends on discipline, cooperation, and each member giving a full effort. Our team is committed to providing a supportive environment in which all participants are treated, and treat others, with respect. As a team member, I promise to behave in ways that are consistent with the values found in the code of conduct listed below.

Alcohol & Drug Use

The use of alcohol and illegal drugs are prohibited while participating in any program, practice, tournament game or other event while representing the team and/or Disabled Athlete Sports Association.

Parents are prohibited from the following:

*Using, possessing, selling, transferring, distributing, making, trafficking or having in their custody alcohol, illegal drugs or paraphernalia, non-prescribed controlled substances, mind altering or performance enhancing drugs while representing the team and/or Disabled Athlete Sports Association.

*Being in a condition unfit to drive or care for their athlete due to drug or alcohol use prior to or during a practice or game.

*Being at a practice or game when a prescribed drug alters their ability to drive or care for their athlete.

*Violating any Federal or Missouri state law relating to drug and/or alcohol use/abuse or possession at any practice and/or game.

* **Failure to abide by this rule will result in IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL.**

I have read and understand the DASA Code of Conduct. My signature is a commitment to upholding the above Coach's Code.

Coach's Signature

Date

I have read and agree with Team Policies. My signature is a commitment to upholding the policies.

Signature

Date

APPENDIX C

 The image part with relationship ID r189 was not found in the file.



APPENDIX D

ABUSE AND NEGLECT

PURPOSE

The purpose of the policy is to define and prohibit abuse, neglect and exploitation of any person served by DASA, and to define the procedure for its report, investigation and prevention. Appropriate disciplinary action in cases of confirmed abuse, neglect or exploitation is outlined in this procedure.

The provisions of the procedure apply to all employees, students and volunteers of DASA.

DEFINITIONS

The following words and terms, when used in the procedure shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

- ◀ **ABUSE and NEGLECT INVESTIGATOR** - An employee of the Department of Family and Protective Services with expertise in conducting investigations or their designee.
- ◀ **AGENT** - Any individual not employed by DASA, but working under the auspices of the agency such as volunteers, consultants, students, etc.
- ◀ **ALLEGATION** - A report by a person believing that a person receiving services has been or is in a state of abuse, exploitation, or neglect as defined in this policy.
- ◀ **CHILD** - A person under 18 years of age who is not and has not been married, or who has not had the disabilities of minority removed for general purposes.
- ◀ **CLINICAL ISSUES** - Issues related to unsafe Therapeutic Handling practice
- ◀ **CONFIRMED** - Term used to describe an allegation of abuse, neglect or exploitation which is supported by the preponderance of the evidence.
- ◀ **CONTRACTOR** - Any school, organization, entity or individual associated by contract in a working alliance with DASA.
- ◀ **DESIGNEE** - A staff member immediately available, who is temporarily appointed to assume the designated responsibilities of the ED.
- ◀ **NEGLIGENCE** - An action that a person of ordinary prudence would not have taken under the same or similar circumstances, or the failure to do something that a person of ordinary prudence would have done under the same or similar circumstances.
- ◀ **NON-SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY** - Any injury determined not to be serious by the appropriate medical personnel. Any injury that requires minor first aid and determined not to be serious by a registered nurse, advanced practice nurse or physician.

- ◀ **PERPETRATOR UNKNOWN** - Term used to describe instances in which abuse or neglect is confirmed but positive identification of the responsible person cannot be made, and in which self-injury has been eliminated as the cause.
- ◀ **PERSON SERVED** - Any person receiving services from DASA, including those persons who are absent who are still carried on the rolls of DASA.
- ◀ **RETALIATORY ACTION** - Any action such as, but not limited to, harassment, disciplinary measures, discrimination, reprimand, threat, and criticism, the purpose of which is to inflict emotional or physical harm or inconvenience on an employee or person served, who has reported client abuse or neglect.
- ◀ **SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY** - Any injury determined to be serious by the appropriate medical personnel. Examples of serious injury may include the following: fracture, dislocation of any joint, internal injury, contusion larger than 2 ½ inches in diameter, concussion, second or third degree burn, or any laceration requiring sutures. Any injury requiring medical intervention or hospitalization or any injury determined to be serious by a physician or advanced practice nurse. Medical intervention is treatment provided by a licensed medical doctor, osteopath, podiatrist, dentist, physician's assistant, or advanced practice nurse. This does not include first aid, an examination, diagnostics, labwork or prescribing oral or topical medication.
- ◀ **SEXUAL ASSAULT** - A criminal act. This includes not only engaging in these acts but causing, permitting, encouraging, allowing photographs or films to be taken of an obscene nature.
- ◀ **SEXUAL ABUSE** – Any sexual activity including, but not limited to the following behaviors with persons served: kissing with sexual intent, hugging with sexual intent, stroking with sexual intent, fondling with sexual intent, or engaging in sexual conduct or any activity that is obscene.
- ◀ **SEXUAL EXPLOITATION** - Any act in which a less able individual is coerced, manipulated, or otherwise used sexually, or is threatened with the same by a more physically and intellectually advanced or more socially able individual.
- ◀ **UNCONFIRMED** - Term used to describe an allegation of abuse, neglect or exploitation which is not supported by the preponderance of the evidence.
- ◀ **VERBAL ABUSE** – Any act or use of verbal or other communication, including gestures to curse, vilify, or degrade a person served or threaten them with physical or emotional harm. In order for the act to be formally investigated it must result in observable distress or harm to the person served or be of such a serious nature that a reasonable person would consider it harmful or causing distress.

CLIENT ABUSE AND NEGLECT INVESTIGATIVE GUIDELINES

CLASS I ABUSE: Any act or failure to act performed knowingly, recklessly, or intentionally, including incitement to act, which caused or may have caused serious physical injury to a person served. Also, without regard to injury, any sexual assault or sexual exploitation involving an employee, agent, or contractor and a person served, will be considered to be Class I Abuse.

CLASS II ABUSE: Any act or failure to act performed knowingly, recklessly, or intentionally, including incitement to act which caused or may have caused NON-SERIOUS physical injury to a person served, exploitation, or any act of force or corporal punishment, including striking or pushing a person served, regardless of whether the act results in NON-SERIOUS injury to a person served.

CLASS III ABUSE: Any use of verbal or other communication to curse, vilify, or degrade a client, or threaten a person served with physical or emotional harm, or any act which vilifies, degrades, or threatens a person served with physical or emotional harm.

NEGLECT: Negligence that causes or could predictably lead to any physical or emotional injury or death to a person served or placed a person served at risk for any of these circumstances. Examples of neglect shall include but are not limited to: failure to carry out a prescribed individual program plan or treatment plan (if such failure results in a specific incident or allegation), failure to provide adequate nutrition, clothing or health care to a person in a residential or inpatient program, or failure to provide a safe environment (for persons served in residential or inpatient program).

PROHIBITION AGAINST CLIENT ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Abuse or neglect of persons served by DASA is prohibited, and shall be grounds for appropriate action, including reporting to law enforcement authorities; reporting to governing boards for professional practice; and, additionally for employees, disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Abuse does not include:

1. Such actions as an employee may reasonably believe to be immediately necessary to avoid imminent harm to self or others, if such actions are limited only to those actions reasonably believed to be necessary under the existing circumstances.
2. All theft of property belonging to a consumer served shall be handled administratively.

II. PROCEDURE

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL DASA EMPLOYEES

It is the obligation of each employee, contractor, or agent who suspects or has knowledge of, or is involved in, abuse or neglect to a person served, to report it immediately by calling The Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) at **1-800-392-3738** or to report to their website provided for agency staff. Employees failing to make such reports without sufficient justification shall be considered in violation of this policy and subject to disciplinary action and possible criminal prosecution.

Without regard to the identity of the perpetrator, the person making the allegation must report suspected sexual assault or sexual exploitation to DFPS/DADS (see above) immediately. If the

person making the allegation is not an employee, e.g., a person receiving services, guest, etc., staff may assist the individual in making the report.

If there is reason to suspect that a person served is abused, neglected, or exploited while outside of DASA programs with a family member or guardian, the case shall be immediately reported to DFPS/DADS (see above).

The person reporting the incident will immediately notify the Executive Director or designee of the allegation.

RESPONSIBILITIES of ED (OR DESIGNEE)

Immediately upon notification of an allegation of abuse or neglect, if possible, but in no case more than one hour later, the ED or designee shall ensure that necessary medical care has been provided to the victim, and shall take measures to ensure the safety of the individual, including the following actions:

(1) If the accused is an employee, the ED or designee will determine whether action should be taken regarding the employee, which may include immediately requiring the employee to leave the work situation, temporary suspension of work duties, reassigning the employee to a non-direct care area, allowing the employee to continue in a non-direct care position pending investigation, or allowing the employee to remain in his or her current position pending investigation, with appropriate supervision to protect the alleged victim and other clients.

(3) If the alleged perpetrator is an Independent School District (ISD) employee, the CEO or designee will immediately, if possible, but in no case more than one hour later contact the

(4) The ED or designee shall immediately, if possible, but not later than 24 hours after notification of an allegation of abuse/neglect, notify the parents, guardian, spouse, or other appropriate relative of the alleged victim. If contact cannot be made by telephone, the ED or designee will notify the parents, guardian, spouse, or other appropriate relative of the alleged victim by certified mail, return receipt requested. Any concerns or issues of the family should be referred to the ED. Program Directors, at their discretion, should give information to the ED.

(5) If the allegation involves verbal abuse, physical abuse, sexual assault, or sexual exploitation, the ED or designee will ensure necessary immediate and ongoing medical and/or psychological attention is obtained for the victim, and, as needed, for the perpetrator, if a person receiving services.

If a determination is made that the allegation involves the clinical practice of medical (LVN, RN, MD, DO LPN) or clinical (Social Workers, LPCs and other licensed staff) personnel, reports should be referred to the ED or designee, who shall immediately refer the allegation to the DASA Board Policy Review Committee, for possible review.

(8) For individuals participants, the CEO or designee shall be informed immediately, but not later than 24 hours after notification of an allegation of abuse/neglect, if, and when the allegation meets the following parameters:

- ▶ Class I abuse (confirmed and unconfirmed).
- ▶ Client-to-client aggression resulting in a serious injury.

- ▶ Client-to-client sexual contact including assault, which occurs as result of coercion, physical force or taking advantage of a disability of the victim.
- ▶ Any sexual contact between staff and a client.
- ▶ Neglect which results in a serious (major) injury to the client.

(9) The ED or designee shall immediately, but not later than 24 hours after notification of an allegation of abuse/neglect/exploitation, notify the appropriate law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the place of incident, when any of the following occur:

- ▶ A client is assaulted by another client, resulting in serious injury and the assault is purposeful and the client perpetrator understands the consequences of his/her actions.
- ▶ A client is discovered with a serious injury and suspicious circumstances exist.
- ▶ Any staff-to-client sexual activity is discovered.
- ▶ Any client-to-client penetrative, coerced or assaultive sexual activity occurs.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ED OR DESIGNEE; OF THE INVESTIGATION:

Upon completion of the investigation of any allegation, the ED or designee shall take the following actions:

(1) Review the abuse and neglect report from DFPS.

(2) Findings by DFPS concerning whether abuse or neglect occurred are not binding on the ED, unless the incident is reportable. Confirmed abuse or neglect that is reported as a final outcome, will result in termination of the employee. In all other cases not reported and the ED or designee disagrees with the recommendation of the DFPS, the decision may be appealed within 14 days.

(b) The ED or designee shall submit the completed "Client Abuse/Neglect Report" (AN-I-A) to the DFPS within thirty calendar days after receipt of the investigative report.

(c) The ED or designee will respond to the concern of the DFPS investigator within 14 days.

(3) The ED or designee shall ensure that the alleged victim and, if appropriate, the parents, guardian, spouse, or other relatives who were notified of the allegation are promptly notified of the final results of the investigation.

DISCIPLINARY RESPONSIBILITIES

The ED or designee shall be responsible for taking prompt and proper disciplinary action when a charge of abuse or neglect is confirmed. Disciplinary action shall be based on criteria including, but not limited to:

1. The seriousness of the abuse and/or neglect;

2. The circumstances surrounding the event;
3. The employee's record; and
4. If a second violation, the length of time between violations.
5. If the violation is reported on the Employee Misconduct Registry.

When the ED or designee determines that client abuse or neglect has occurred, appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with DASA policy, will be taken.

PROHIBITION OF RETALIATORY ACTION

Any employee or person served, who in good faith reports client abuse, neglect or exploitation, shall not be subjected to retaliatory action by any employee of DASA or by any person affiliated with an employee of DASA.

Any person who is subjected to retaliatory action upon making a report of client abuse, or whose report is ignored without cause, shall immediately contact the ED or designee.

Any employee found guilty of retaliatory action will be subject to disciplinary or other appropriate action.

STAFF TRAINING IN PREVENTION OF ABUSE, NEGLECT AND EXPLOITATION

The procedure concerning client abuse, neglect and exploitation shall be communicated to all employees.

- 1) All new employees, students and volunteers shall receive instruction on the content of this procedure during their orientation training and prior to beginning work that involves direct contact with any person served. Acknowledgment of this instruction shall be certified by the employee and filed in his or her HR training file.
- 2) Orientation shall include a thorough explanation of the definitions contained in these rules, including the categories or classes of abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and the procedures for reporting incidents of abuse or neglect.

Those employees in frequent contact with persons served shall receive additional instruction on the prevention and therapeutic management of aggressive, combative behavior or similar volatile situations as a unit of training within the employee's s orientation period.

All supervisory personnel shall have a continuing responsibility to keep employees informed of current rules governing abuse, neglect and exploitation. Supervisors shall ensure that each employee receives training on the total content of this procedure not less than once each calendar year. Such training shall be filed by signature in DASA Human Resource File.

DASA will keep a record on each employee receiving orientation, annual training, or additional instruction in compliance with this section, including the date training was provided and the name of the individual conducting the training.

APPEALS PROCESS

A person who makes an allegation of abuse, neglect or exploitation, the victim or their legal representative who wishes to appeal the findings of the investigation shall request a review of the completed investigation by notifying the Missouri Department of Family and Protective Services.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS AND REPORT

The reports, records, and working papers used by or developed in the investigative process and the resulting final report regarding abuse and neglect are confidential and may be disclosed only as provided under law.

Parents/guardians shall be told that an abuse or neglect allegation has been made, with a description of the nature of the allegation and any action taken such as medical treatment provided or remedial measures.

The complainant shall be notified of the findings, but neither the perpetrator's name nor the disciplinary action taken shall be released to the complainant. The name of the person served may be used in informing the complainant of the findings. In addition, the accused shall be informed of the investigative findings and may obtain a copy of the report.

APPENDIX E

DISABLED ATHLETE SPORTS
ASSOCIATION
SPORT PROTECTION HANDBOOK

A Chapter of Disabled Sports USA

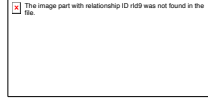


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INTRODUCTION:

Disabled Athlete Sports Association (DASA) has adopted the following Sport Protection policies as they relate specifically to DASA-controlled activities and events, and facilities under DASA's jurisdiction (to mean facilities owned and controlled by DASA)

Engaging in sport should be an opportunity for all athletes to have fun and spend time with friends. Sport also encourages a healthy lifestyle, and builds self-confidence. Athletes often do better off the field than those who do not participate in sport. They learn goal-setting, teamwork and time management skills. Athletes are less likely to use cigarettes, drugs and alcohol; they have higher graduation rates and are more likely to attend college.

Unfortunately, sport can also be a high-risk environment for misconduct, including athlete physical and sexual abuse.

All forms of misconduct are intolerable and in direct conflict with the ideals of DASA. Misconduct may damage an athlete's psychological well-being; athletes who have been mistreated experience social embarrassment, emotional turmoil, psychological scars, loss of self-esteem and negative impacts on family, friends and the sport. Misconduct often hurts an athlete's performance and may cause him or her to drop out of sport entirely.

DASA is committed to improving the development and safety of athletes and participants involved in the community we serve. DASA publishes this Handbook as a resource to guide DASA's development, implementation and internal review of effective athlete safety and misconduct prevention strategies.

DISABLED SPORTS USA RELATIONSHIP

DASA is a chapter member of Disabled Sports USA, and is required to have a written and publicly available Sport Protection Policy that meets the minimum standards of Disabled Sports USA.

DASA's Sport Protection Policies shall govern individual's responsibilities for this chapter and may include additional or different policies that relate to this specific organization, but such policies may be no less restrictive than those outlined by Disabled Sports USA, or as otherwise required by law. Chapter members are solely responsible for their own compliance with the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Reauthorization Act of 2017 and other applicable state or federal law.

ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE DASA

Many Participants may find themselves to be additionally involved with other various local and grassroots programs or organizations not under the authority or control of DASA. The policies contained in this Handbook govern activities run directly by DASA. However, misconduct by a Covered Individual or a Participant (as

defined below), outside of the context DASA may also be grounds for penalties, including, but not limited to, prohibiting an individual from participating with DASA.

The policies contained in this Handbook apply to Participants and Covered Individuals (defined below), as described herein.

DEFINITIONS

A. Athlete

An individual participating as an athlete in a DASA event or program. Provided, however, that misconduct by a Participant directed at an “athlete” outside of the context of DASA programs may also be grounds for DASA to restrict a Participant’s participation with DASA or take other action.

B. Child Abuse

The term “child abuse” has the meaning set forth in Section 203 of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (34 U.S.C. § 20341) or any applicable state law.

C. Claimant

The person who is alleged to have experienced conduct that constitutes a Handbook violation.

D. Consent

Consent is (a) informed (knowing), (b) voluntary (freely given), (c) active (not passive). Consent must be demonstrated by clear words or actions, indicating that a person who is legally and functionally competent has indicated permission to engage in mutually agreed-upon sexual activity. Consent to any one form of sexual activity does not automatically imply Consent for any other forms of sexual activity. Previous relationships or prior Consent does not imply Consent to future sexual activity. Once given, Consent can be withdrawn through clear communication. Consent cannot be obtained: (a) by force, (b) by taking advantage of the Incapacitation of another, where the person initiating sexual activity knew or reasonably should have known that the other was Incapacitated, (c) from someone who lacks legal capacity, (d) where a Power Imbalance exists.

1. Force

Force includes (a) the use of physical violence, (b) threats, (c) intimidation, and (d) coercion.

- a. Physical violence means that a person is exerting control over another person using physical force. Examples of physical violence include hitting, punching, slapping, kicking, restraining, choking, and brandishing or using any weapon.
- b. Threats are words or actions that would compel a reasonable person to engage in unwanted sexual activity. Examples include threats to harm a person physically, to reveal private information to harm a person's reputation, or to cause a person sporting harm.
- c. Intimidation is an implied threat that menaces or causes reasonable fear in another person. A person's size, alone, does not constitute intimidation; however, a person's size may be used in a way that constitutes intimidation (e.g., blocking access to an exit).
- d. Coercion is the use of an unreasonable amount of pressure to gain intimate and/or sexual access. Coercion is more than an effort to persuade, entice, or attract another person to engage in sexual activity. When a person makes clear their decision not to participate in a form of Sexual Contact or Sexual Intercourse, their decision to stop, or their decision not to go beyond a certain sexual interaction, continued pressure can be coercive. Whether conduct is coercive depends on: (i) the frequency of the application of the pressure, (ii) the intensity of the pressure, (iii) the degree of isolation of the person being pressured, and (iv) the duration of the pressure.

2. Legal Capacity

Minors cannot Consent to conduct of a sexual nature. While the legal age of Consent varies under state and federal law, the legal age of capacity under this Handbook is 18. A three-year close-in-age exception will be applied to any policy violation between an adult and a Minor, or between two Minors, where there is no Power Imbalance. When the assessment of whether a Participant's conduct violates this Policy depends upon another individual being below a certain specified age, ignorance of their actual age is no defense. Neither shall misrepresentation of age by such person, nor a Participant's bona fide belief that such person is over the specified age, be a defense.

3. Incapacitation

Incapacitation means that a person lacks the ability to make informed, rational judgments about whether to engage in sexual activity. A person who is incapacitated is unable, temporarily or permanently, to give Consent because of mental or physical helplessness, sleep, unconsciousness, or lack of awareness that sexual activity is taking place. A person may be incapacitated because of consuming alcohol or other drugs, or due to a temporary or permanent physical or mental health condition. Incapacitation is a state beyond drunkenness or intoxication. A person is not necessarily incapacitated merely because of drinking or using drugs. The impact of alcohol and other drugs varies from person to person and is evaluated under the specific circumstances of a matter. A Respondent's being impaired by alcohol or other drugs is not a defense to any violation of this Policy. The Consent construct can

also be applied to other forms of non-sexual conduct, such as hazing or other forms of Physical and/or Emotional Misconduct.

F. Covered Individual

Covered Individuals are:

- DASA employees
- DASA part-time or seasonally contracted coaches/instructors, whether volunteer or paid
- DASA Board of Directors
- DASA Committee members
- DASA volunteers, not included above, who DASA authorizes to have regular contact with athletes and/or minors
- DASA contractors, not included above, who DASA authorizes to have regular contact with athletes and/or minors
-

G. Minor or Child

An individual who is, or is believed by the Respondent to be, under the age of 18.

H. Participant

Any individual who is seeking to be, currently is, or was at the time of the alleged Handbook violation:

- a. A member DASA;
- b. An employee of DASA;
- c. A volunteer of DASA
- d. Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of DASA;
- e. Authorized, approved, or appointed by DASA to have regular contact with Minor Athletes; and/or
- f. A Covered Individual, not otherwise listed herein.

For the purpose of evaluating whether an individual is considered a Participant per this provision, the phrase “currently is” includes the date on which the alleged misconduct was reported to DASA, through resolution, and including the period(s) of any sanctions imposed.

I. Policy

“Policy” means the Sport Protection Policy within this Handbook.

J. Power Imbalance

A Power Imbalance may exist where, based on the totality of the circumstances, one person has supervisory, evaluative, or other authority over another. Whether there is a Power Imbalance depends on several factors, including but not limited to: the nature and extent of the supervisory, evaluative or other authority over the person; the actual relationship between the parties; the parties’ respective roles; the nature and duration of the relationship; the age of the parties involved; whether there is an aggressor; whether there is a significant disparity in age, size, strength, or mental capacity. Once a coach-Athlete relationship is established, a Power Imbalance is presumed to exist throughout the coach-Athlete relationship (regardless of age) and is presumed to continue for Minor Athletes after the coach-Athlete relationship terminates until the Athlete reaches 20 years of age. A Power Imbalance may exist, but is not presumed, where an Intimate Relationship existed before the sport relationship (e.g., a relationship between two spouses or life partners that preceded the sport relationship).

K. Respondent

A Participant who is alleged to have violated the Handbook.

L. Third-Party Reporter

Reports brought by individuals other than the Claimant are referred to as “third-party reports” and those bringing them are “third-party reporters.”

M. Ward

An individual, whether an adult or a minor, who has a legal guardian.

SECTION 1: TRAINING AND EDUCATION

DASA requires mandatory reporting of abuse, misconduct and violations of its Handbook by Covered Individuals.

To facilitate reporting, Covered Individuals should have a basic understanding of sexual abuse, as well as “grooming,” the most common strategy offenders use to seduce their victims. Using a combination of attention, affection and gifts, offenders select a victim, win the victim’s trust (and the trust of the victim’s parent or guardian), manipulate the victim into sexual activity, and keep the victim from disclosing abuse. Accordingly, Covered Individuals shall complete awareness training concerning misconduct in sport before performing services for DASA.

Covered Individuals must successfully complete the training and quiz after the test in order to be eligible to participate with DASA. DASA has partnered with the Center on SafeSport to provide training through:

<http://training.safesport.org>
Password: PASSWORD

Covered Individuals are required to take awareness training, or a refresher course, as applicable, every year, the first training to commence no more than 30 day(s) before they have contact with athletes and/or minors in connection with DASA. In the case of coach/instructor selected to serve camps or events, training must be completed prior to the coach/instructor’s participation in any DASA pre-event training camp.

Training will also be made available annually to minor athletes, subject to parental consent.

SECTION 2: BACKGROUND SCREENING

APPLICANT SCREENING

Covered Individuals must consent to, and pass, a formal screening process before performing services for DASA having contact with athletes or minors in their role with DASA.

Elements of DASA's screening process include, as applicable, successful completion of an application, interview, reference check and criminal background check.

EDUCATION ABOUT DISABLED ATHLETE SPORTS ASSOCIATION'S PROTECTION POLICIES

To deter applicants who may be at risk of abusing athletes or participants from applying for positions, DASA educates its applicants about its protection policies and offers applicants an early opt-out by:

- Informing applicants about DASA's policies and procedures relevant to prevention
- Asking applicants to review and agree to DASA's policies and procedures before proceeding with the process
- Requiring applicants to sign a document acknowledging review of DASA's policies and procedures
- Requiring awareness training before working with athletes, minors, and other DASA participants

WRITTEN APPLICATIONS

Each applicant for a position will complete an application form consisting of personal identifying information and a general release with the applicant's signature.

The written application will:

- Ask about previous work and volunteer experiences
- Ask questions intended to elicit information concerning high-risk behaviors
- Provide a written release for contacting personal references, including an indemnification clause
- Ask open-ended questions that encourage broad answers

Following a personal interview, if applicable, Disabled Athlete Sports Association will:

- Use disclosure statements to ask applicants about criminal arrests, charges or convictions
- Provide a written release for performing a criminal background check, including an indemnification clause
- Provide the applicant's name to DASA's background check vendor

PERSONAL INTERVIEW

For employee applicants, appropriate staff will interview employee applicants whose experience and credentials are considered a fit for available positions.

In the case of Board and committee applicants, the nominating committee of the Board of Directors will interview applicants whose experience and credentials are considered a fit for available positions.

During this interview, DASA will ask questions to encourage discussion, clarify responses and expand on the applicant's answers to questions from the written application.

REFERENCES

References of applicants may be contacted (either by phone, email or in writing) and asked specific questions regarding the applicant's professional experiences, demeanor and appropriateness for involvement with athletes with disabilities, minors, and other DASA participants.

RELEASE

Applicants may be required to provide a signed release, consistent with applicable law, that allows references to speak freely about the applicant's qualifications without fear of reprisal and authorizing DASA to obtain information concerning an applicant's past employment, volunteer experience and information provided by the applicant during the screening process (i.e., written application and personal interview).

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND DISCLOSURES

Each applicant has the affirmative duty to disclose his or her criminal history. Failing to disclose or intentionally misrepresenting criminal history or any other information provided by an applicant during the screening process is grounds for employment, volunteer and/or membership revocation or restriction, regardless of when the offense is discovered. Furthermore:

- If an applicant is arrested, indicted, charged, has pending charges, pleads guilty or no contest, or is convicted of a crime during the screening process, the applicant is required to disclose such information immediately.
- In the event a person is serving as a Covered Individual and is arrested, indicted, charged, has pending charges, pleads guilty or not contest, or is convicted after the completion of the screening process, he or she has an affirmative duty to disclose such information immediately to his or her supervisor or DASA administrator and Kelly Behlmann.
- **Any applicant who has been banned by another sport organization, including, without limitation, the U.S. Center for SafeSport or a National Governing Body, as temporarily or permanently ineligible, must self-disclose this information. Failure to disclose is a basis for disqualification of applicants and/or other penalty or restriction.**

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK POLICY

All Covered Individuals, as defined above, are required to undergo a criminal background check that complies with the Fair Credit Reporting Act **before** providing services for DASA. Through this criminal background check, DASA will utilize reasonable efforts to ascertain past criminal history of an applicant.

PROCESS

The Criminal Background Check Consent and Waiver Release form must be submitted and the applicant cleared by the third party provider before he or she may perform services for DASA or have contact with athletes or minors.

FINDINGS

Notice of criminal background check findings will be provided to:

- (1) The designated staff contact at DASA that administers applications;
- (2) In the case of Board and committees, the chair of the Board Ethics Committee or, if the chair of the Board Ethics Committee, to the Chapter Leader Kelly Behlmann

DASA's criminal background check report will return a "red light" or "green light" score. A **green light** score means that the background check vendor located no records that would disqualify the applicant. A green light score, however, is not a certification of safety or permission to bypass/ignore other screening efforts. Other

disqualifying factors may exist, and can be revealed through an interview, reference checks and a completed application.

A **red light** finding means the criminal background check revealed criminal records that indicate the applicant “does not meet the criteria” and is not suitable for organization employment, volunteer assignment, or other participation with DASA.

Red lights are any disposition or resolution of a criminal proceeding, other than an adjudication of not guilty, including, but not limited to an adjudication of guilt or admission to a criminal violation, a plea to the charge or a lesser included offense, a plea of no contest, any plea analogous to an Alford or Kennedy plea, the disposition of the proceeding through a diversionary program, deferred adjudication, deferred prosecution, disposition of supervision, conditional dismissal, juvenile delinquency adjudication, or similar arrangement, or any pending criminal charge(s) or warrant(s) for arrest, for the following crimes:

Automatic red lights (automatic disqualification)

(1) Any felony involving:

- a. Violence against a person;
- b. Violent crimes involving weapons (including armed robbery and aggravated assault with a weapon);
- c. Animal abuse or animal neglect.

(2) Any felony or misdemeanor involving:

- a. All sexual crimes (excluding only those potential disqualifiers in 3(c) below);
- b. Drug use or possession (including the use of drug paraphernalia), within the previous three years;
- c. Other drug related crimes including drug distribution, intent to distribute, manufacturing, trafficking, or sale within the previous seven years;
- d. Child endangerment, neglect or abuse;
- e. Neglect or abuse of an elderly or disabled individual.

(3) A Covered Individual who is currently on any state, federal, territorial, or tribal sex offender registry is ineligible to participate with DASA in any capacity.

Potential red lights (these crimes shall cause an individual to be subject to review for disqualification, but disqualification is not necessarily automatic)

(1) Other felonies not included in Automatic red lights, above.

(2) Crimes involving vehicular bodily harm;

(3) Other misdemeanors for:

- a. Drug-related crimes not covered in Automatic red lights, above;
- b. Violence against a person (including crimes involving firearms);
- c. Prostitution, indecent exposure, or public indecency;
- d. Stalking or harassment;
- e. Destruction of property, including arson, vandalism, and criminal mischief;
- f. Animal abuse or neglect.

When assessing whether conduct constitutes a red light, DASA may assess and rely upon the original charges, amended charges, and those to which a plea was entered.

APPEAL TO CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK VENDOR

Any disqualified individual has the right to dispute the accuracy of the findings of the criminal background check directly with DASA's approved Criminal Background Check Vendor. A disqualified individual may not appeal the disqualification or the results of the findings of the criminal background check vendor to DASA. DASA is required by the policy to accept the findings of the approved criminal background check vendor.

Individuals disqualified based on the results of their criminal background check are excluded from participation in any DASA sanctioned events and/or activities, and any offer of employment or participation with DASA may be rescinded. If the individual is currently participating with DASA, that individual may be, among other things, terminated, suspended, or banned from participation with DASA.

FREQUENCY OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

Criminal background checks will be or as otherwise required by law, for Covered Individuals who are 18 years of age or older and perform services for DASA.

AFFIRMATIVE DUTY TO DISCLOSE

If, during the course of employment or participation in DASA's program, a Covered Individual is subject to any disposition or resolution of a criminal proceeding, other than an adjudication of not guilty, including, but not limited to an adjudication of guilt or admission to a criminal violation, a plea to the charge or a lesser included offense, a plea of no contest, any plea analogous to an Alford or Kennedy plea, the disposition of the proceeding through a diversionary program, deferred adjudication, deferred prosecution, disposition of supervision, conditional dismissal, juvenile delinquency adjudication, or similar arrangement, or any pending criminal charge(s) or warrant(s) for arrest, it is the duty and responsibility of the Covered Individual to notify DASA's Chapter Leader, Kelly Behlmann. Covered Individuals are further required to disclose Other Potentially Disqualifying Factors, below, if such factor becomes applicable while the Covered Individual is involved in DASA.

OTHER POTENTIALLY DISQUALIFYING FACTORS

Even if an individual passes a criminal background check, other factors may disqualify the individual. An individual may be disqualified and prohibited from providing services for, or otherwise participating with, DASA if the individual has:

- Been held liable for civil penalties or damages involving sexual or physical abuse or misconduct
- Been subject to any court order involving any sexual or physical abuse or misconduct, including, but not limited to, a domestic order or protection
- A history with another organization (employment, volunteer, etc.) of complaints of sexual or physical abuse or misconduct
- Been banned by another sport organization, including, without limitation, the U.S. Center for SafeSport or a National Governing Body, as temporarily or permanently ineligible
- Resigned, been terminated or been asked to resign from a position – paid or unpaid – due to complaint(s) of sexual or physical abuse or misconduct
- A history of other behavior that indicates they may be a danger to participants in DASA; or
- Not met the job requirements

REVIEW OF DISQUALIFIERS

DASA will review its disqualifiers every two years or as otherwise required or modified by law.

RECORDS

Records are secured at DASA headquarters for a period indicated by applicable law or seven years after the individual is no longer affiliated with DASA, whichever date is later.

SECTION 3: SPORT PROTECTION POLICY

COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

Overview

DASA is committed to creating a safe and positive environment for athletes' physical, emotional and social development and to ensuring that it promotes an environment free of misconduct. DASA recognizes that the process for training and motivating athletes will vary with each coach and athlete, but it is nevertheless important for everyone involved in sport to support the use of motivational and training methods that avoid misconduct.

Application

This Sport Protection Policy applies to Covered Individuals, DASA athletes, and other DASA participants, as discussed below.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

This section of the Handbook sets forth expectations for Participants related to emotional, physical, and sexual misconduct in sport, including bullying, hazing, and harassment.

The privilege of participation with DASA may be limited, conditioned, suspended, terminated, or denied if a Participant's conduct is or was inconsistent with this Handbook and/or the best interest of sport and those who participate in it.

It is a violation of the Handbook and this Policy for a Participant to engage in or tolerate: (1) Prohibited Conduct, as outlined in this Policy; (2) any conduct that would violate any current or previous U.S. Center for SafeSport (the "Center"), DASA, or chapter standards analogous to Prohibited Conduct that existed at the time of the alleged conduct; or (3) any conduct that would violate community standards analogous to Prohibited Conduct that existed at the time of the alleged conduct, including then applicable criminal and/or civil laws.

Prohibited Conduct also includes:

- A. Child Abuse
- B. Sexual Misconduct
- C. Emotional and Physical Misconduct, including Stalking, Bullying, Hazing, and Harassment
- D. Aiding and Abetting
- E. Misconduct Related to Reporting
- F. Other Inappropriate Conduct

A. Child Abuse

It is a violation of this Policy for a Participant to engage in Child Abuse.

B. Sexual Misconduct

It is a violation of this Policy for a Participant to engage in Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct offenses include, but are not limited to:

1. Sexual or Gender-related Harassment
2. Non-consensual Sexual Contact (or attempts to commit the same)
3. Non-consensual Sexual Intercourse (or attempts to commit the same)
4. Sexual Exploitation
5. Bullying or hazing, or other inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature.

1. Sexual or Gender-related Harassment

Sexual harassment is any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favors, or other unwanted conduct of a sexual nature, whether verbal, non-verbal, graphic, physical, or otherwise, when the conditions outlined in (a) and/or (b), below, are present. Sexual harassment includes harassment related to gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, which may include acts of aggression, intimidation, or hostility, whether verbal or non-verbal, graphic, physical, or otherwise, even if the acts do not involve conduct of a sexual nature, when the conditions outlined in (a) and/or (b), below, are present.

a. Submission to such conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of any person's employment, standing in sport, or participation in events, sports programs and/or activities; or when submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for sporting decisions affecting the individual (often referred to as "quid pro quo" harassment); or

b. Such conduct creates a hostile environment. A "hostile environment" exists when the conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, and/or pervasive such that it interferes with, limits, or deprives any individual of the opportunity to participate in any program or activity. Conduct must be deemed severe, persistent, or pervasive from both a subjective and an objective perspective. Whether a hostile environment exists depends on the totality of known circumstances, including, but not limited to:

- i. The frequency, nature, and severity of the conduct;

- ii. Whether the conduct was physically threatening;
- iii. The effect of the conduct on the Claimant's mental or emotional state;
- iv. Whether the conduct was directed at more than one person;
- v. Whether the conduct arose in the context of other discriminatory conduct;
- vi. Whether the conduct unreasonably interfered with any person's educational or work performance and/or sport programs or activities; and
- vii. Whether the conduct implicates concerns related to protected speech.

A hostile environment can be created by persistent or pervasive conduct or by a single or isolated incident that is sufficiently severe. The more severe the conduct, the less need there is to show a repetitive series of incidents to prove a hostile environment, particularly if the conduct is physical. A single incident of sexual contact without Consent, for example, may be sufficiently severe to constitute a hostile environment. In contrast, the perceived offensiveness of a single verbal or written expression, standing alone, is typically not sufficient to constitute a hostile environment.

2. Nonconsensual Sexual Contact

It is a violation of this Policy for a Participant to engage in Sexual Contact without Consent. Sexual Contact is any intentional touching of a sexual nature, however slight, with any object or body part (as described below), by a person upon another person. Sexual Contact includes but is not limited to: (a) kissing, (b) intentional touching of the breasts, buttocks, groin or genitals, whether clothed or unclothed, or intentionally touching of another with any of these body parts; and (c) making another touch themselves, the Participant, or someone else with or on any of these body parts.

3. Nonconsensual Sexual Intercourse

It is a violation of this Policy for a Participant to engage in Sexual Intercourse without Consent.

Sexual Intercourse is any penetration, however slight, with any object or body part (as described below), by a person upon another person. Sexual Intercourse includes (a) vaginal penetration by a penis, object, tongue, or finger; (b) anal penetration by a penis, object, tongue, or finger; and (c) any contact, no matter how slight, between the mouth of one person and the genitalia of another person.

4. Sexual Exploitation

It is a violation of this Policy for a Participant to engage in Sexual Exploitation. Sexual Exploitation occurs when a Participant purposely or knowingly:

- a. Allows third parties to observe private sexual activity from a hidden location (e.g., closet) or through electronic means (e.g., Skype or live-streaming of images) without Consent of all parties involved in the sexual activity.
- b. Records or photographs private sexual activity and/or a person's intimate parts (including genitalia, groin, breasts or buttocks) without Consent of all parties in the recording or photo.
- c. Engages in voyeurism (e.g., watching private sexual activity or viewing another person's intimate parts when that person would have a reasonable expectation of privacy), without Consent of all parties being viewed.
- d. Disseminates, shows or posts images of private sexual activity and/or a person's intimate parts (including genitalia, groin, breasts or buttocks) without prior Consent of the person depicted in the images.
- e. Intentionally exposes another person to a sexually transmitted infection or virus without that person's knowledge.
- f. Engages in prostituting or trafficking another person.

5. Bullying, Hazing, or Other Inappropriate Conduct of a Sexual Nature.

It is a violation of this Policy for a Participant to engage in bullying, hazing, and other inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature, as further defined in the corresponding sections below.

C. Emotional and Physical Misconduct

It is a Handbook violation for a Participant to engage in emotional and/or physical misconduct, when that misconduct occurs within a context that is reasonably related to sport, which includes, without limitation:

- 1. Emotional Misconduct
- 2. Physical Misconduct
- 3. Bullying Behaviors
- 4. Hazing
- 5. Harassment.

1. Emotional Misconduct

Emotional Misconduct includes (a) Verbal Acts, (b) Physical Acts, (c) Acts that Deny Attention or Support, (d) Criminal Conduct, and/or (e) Stalking. Emotional Misconduct is determined by the objective behaviors, not whether harm is intended or results from the behavior.

a. Verbal Acts

Repeatedly and excessively verbally assaulting or attacking someone personally in a manner that serves no productive training or motivational purpose.

b. Physical Acts

Repeated and/or severe physically aggressive behaviors, including but not limited to, throwing sport equipment, water bottles or chairs at or in the presence of others, punching walls, windows or other objects.

c. Acts that Deny Attention or Support

Ignoring or isolating a person for extended periods of time, including routinely or arbitrarily excluding a Participant from practice.

d. Criminal Conduct

Emotional Misconduct includes any act or conduct described as emotional abuse or misconduct under federal or state law (e.g. child abuse, child neglect).

e. Stalking

Stalking occurs when a person purposefully engages in a course of conduct directed at a specific person, and knows or should know, that the course of conduct would cause a reasonable person to (i) fear for their safety, (ii) the safety of a third person, or (iii) to experience substantial emotional distress.

“Course of conduct” means at least two or more acts, in which a person directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about another person, or interferes with another person’s property.

“Substantial emotional distress” means significant mental suffering or anguish.

Stalking also includes “cyber-stalking,” wherein a person stalks another using electronic media, such as the internet, social networks, blogs, cell phones, texts, or other similar devices or forms of contact.

f. Exclusion

Emotional Misconduct does not include professionally accepted coaching methods of skill enhancement, physical conditioning, team building, appropriate discipline or improved Athlete performance. Emotional Misconduct also does not include conduct reasonably accepted as part of sport and/or conduct reasonably accepted as part of Participant’s participation.

2. Physical Misconduct

Physical Misconduct is any intentional contact or noncontact behavior that causes, or reasonably threatens to cause, physical harm to another person.

Examples of physical misconduct may include, without limitation:

a. Contact violations

Punching, beating, biting, striking, choking or slapping another; intentionally hitting another with objects, such as sporting equipment; encouraging or knowingly permitting an Athlete to return to play prematurely following a serious injury (e.g., a concussion) and without the clearance of a medical professional.

b. Non-contact violations

Isolating a person in a confined space, such as locking an Athlete in a small space; forcing an Athlete to assume a painful stance or position for no athletic purpose (e.g., requiring an athlete to kneel on a harmful surface); withholding, recommending against, or denying adequate hydration, nutrition, medical attention or sleep; providing alcohol to a person under the legal drinking age; providing illegal drugs or non-prescribed medications to another.

c. Criminal Conduct

Physical Misconduct includes any act or conduct described as physical abuse or misconduct under federal or state law (e.g. child abuse, child neglect, assault).

d. Exclusion

Physical Misconduct does not include professionally accepted coaching methods of skill enhancement, physical conditioning, team building, appropriate discipline, or improved Athlete performance. For example, hitting, punching and kicking are well-regulated forms of contact in combat sports, but have no place in swimming. Physical Misconduct also does not include conduct reasonably accepted as part of sport and/or conduct reasonably accepted as part of Participant's participation.

3. Bullying Behavior

Repeated and/or severe behavior(s) that are (a) aggressive (b) directed at a Minor, and (c) intended or likely to hurt, control, or diminish the Minor emotionally, physically or sexually. Bullying-like behaviors directed at adults are addressed under other forms of misconduct, such as Hazing and/or Harassment.

Examples of bullying behavior may include, without limitation, repeated and/or severe:

a. Physical

Hitting, pushing, punching, beating, biting, striking, kicking, choking, spitting or slapping, or throwing objects (such as sporting equipment) at another person.

b. Verbal

Ridiculing, taunting, name-calling or intimidating or threatening to cause someone harm.

c. Social, including cyberbullying

Use of rumors or false statements about someone to diminish that person's reputation; using electronic communications, social media or other technology to harass, frighten, intimidate or humiliate someone; socially excluding someone and asking others to do the same.

d. Sexual

Ridiculing or taunting based on gender or sexual orientation (real or perceived), gender traits or behavior, or teasing someone about their looks or behavior as it relates to sexual attractiveness.

e. Criminal Conduct

Bullying Behavior includes any conduct described as bullying under federal or state law.

f. Exclusion

Conduct may not rise to the level of Bullying Behavior if it is merely rude (inadvertently saying or doing something hurtful), mean (purposefully saying or doing something hurtful, but not as part of a pattern of behavior), or arising from conflict or struggle between persons who perceive they have incompatible views and/or positions. Bullying does not include professionally accepted coaching methods of skill enhancement, physical conditioning, team building, appropriate discipline, or improved Athlete performance.

4. Hazing

Any conduct that subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, humiliate, degrade or intimidate the person as a condition of joining or being socially accepted by a group, team, or organization.

Purported Consent by the person subjected to Hazing is not a defense, regardless of the person's perceived willingness to cooperate or participate.

Examples of Hazing include:

a. Contact acts

Tying, taping or otherwise physically restraining another person; beating, paddling or other forms of physical assault.

b. Non-contact acts

Requiring or forcing the consumption of alcohol, illegal drugs or other substances, including participation in binge drinking and drinking games; personal servitude; requiring social actions (e.g., wearing inappropriate or provocative clothing) or public displays (e.g., public nudity) that are illegal or meant to draw ridicule; excessive training requirements demanded of only particular individuals on a team that serve no reasonable or productive training purpose; sleep deprivation; otherwise unnecessary schedule disruptions; withholding of water and/or food; restrictions on personal hygiene.

c. Sexualized acts

Actual or simulated conduct of a sexual nature.

d. Criminal acts

Any act or conduct that constitutes hazing under applicable federal or state law.

e. Exclusion

Conduct may not rise to the level of Hazing if it is merely rude (inadvertently saying or doing something hurtful), mean (purposefully saying or doing something hurtful, but not as part of a pattern of behavior), or arising from conflict or struggle between persons who perceive they have incompatible views and/or positions. Hazing does not include professionally accepted coaching methods of skill enhancement, physical conditioning, team building, appropriate discipline, or improved Athlete performance.

5. Harassment

Repeated and/or severe conduct that (a) causes fear, humiliation or annoyance, (b) offends or degrades, (c) creates a hostile environment (as defined above), or (d) reflects discriminatory bias in an attempt to establish dominance, superiority or power over an individual or group based on age, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, national origin, or mental or physical disability; or (e) any act or conduct described as harassment under federal or state law. Whether conduct is harassing depends on the totality of the circumstances, including the nature, frequency, intensity, location, context, and duration of the behavior. Conduct may not rise to the level of Harassment if it is merely rude (inadvertently saying or doing something hurtful),

mean (purposefully saying or doing something hurtful, but not as part of a pattern of behavior), or arising from conflict or struggle between persons who perceive they have incompatible views and/or positions.

Harassment does not include professionally accepted coaching methods of skill enhancement, physical conditioning, team building, appropriate discipline, or improved Athlete performance.

D. Aiding and Abetting

Aiding and Abetting is any act taken with the purpose of facilitating, promoting, or encouraging the commission of Prohibited Conduct by a Participant. Aiding and Abetting also includes, without limitation, knowingly:

1. Allowing any person who has been identified as suspended or otherwise ineligible by DASA to be in any way associated with or employed by an organization affiliated with or holding itself out as affiliated DASA;
2. Allowing any person who has been identified as suspended or otherwise ineligible by DASA to coach or instruct Participants;
3. Allowing any person who has been identified as ineligible by DASA to have ownership interest in a facility, an organization, or its related entities, if that facility/organization/related entity is affiliated with or holds itself out as affiliated with DASA.
4. Providing any coaching-related advice or service to an Athlete who has been identified as suspended or otherwise ineligible by DASA;
5. Allowing any person to violate the terms of their suspension or any other sanctions imposed by DASA. In addition, a Participant also violates this Policy if someone acts on behalf of the Participant to engage in Aiding or Abetting, or if the guardian, family member, or Advisor of a Participant, including Minor Participants, engages in Aiding or Abetting.

E. Misconduct Related to Reporting

1. Failure to Report

An adult Participant who fails to report actual or suspected Sexual Misconduct or Child Abuse to DASA and, when appropriate, to law enforcement may be subject to disciplinary action under DASA's resolution procedures and may also be subject to federal or state penalties.

- a. The obligation to report is broader than reporting a pending charge or criminal arrest of a Participant; it requires reporting to DASA, and law enforcement if applicable, any conduct which, if true, would constitute Sexual Misconduct and/or

Child Abuse. The obligation to report to DASA is an ongoing one and is not satisfied simply by making an initial report. The obligation includes reporting, on a timely basis, all information of which an adult Participant becomes aware, including the names of witnesses, third-party reporters, and Claimants.

b. The obligation to report includes personally identifying information of a potential Claimant to the extent known at the time of the report, as well as a duty to reasonably supplement the report as to identifying information learned at a later time.

c. Participants should not investigate or attempt to evaluate the credibility or validity of allegations involving Sexual Misconduct and/or Child Abuse. Participants making a good faith report are not required to prove the reports are true before reporting.

2. Intentionally Filing a False Allegation

In addition to constituting misconduct, filing a knowingly false allegation that a Participant engaged in Prohibited Conduct may violate state criminal law and civil defamation laws. Any person making a knowingly false allegation in a matter over which DASA exercises jurisdiction shall be subject to disciplinary action by DASA.

a. An allegation is false if the events reported did not occur, and the person making the report knows the events did not occur.

b. A false allegation is different from an unsubstantiated allegation; an unsubstantiated allegation means there is insufficient supporting evidence to determine whether an allegation is true or false. Absent demonstrable misconduct, an unsubstantiated allegation alone is not grounds for a Handbook violation.

3. Retaliation

Retaliation against anyone for engaging in DASA's processes is prohibited. A Participant, someone acting on behalf of a Participant, a chapter, DASA, or anyone subject to the Handbook, shall not take an adverse action against any person for making a good faith report of a possible Handbook violation to DASA or other relevant organization as identified herein or for participating in any process under this Handbook.

Retaliation includes threatening, intimidating, harassing, coercing or any other conduct that would discourage a reasonable person from engaging or participating in DASA's processes when the action is reasonably related to the report or engagement with DASA. Retaliation may be present even where there is a finding that no violation occurred. Retaliation does not include good-faith actions lawfully pursued in response to a report of a Handbook violation.

F. Other Inappropriate Conduct

1. Intimate Relationship

An adult Participant violates this Policy by engaging in an intimate or romantic relationship where a Power Imbalance exists. An Intimate or Romantic relationship is a close personal relationship—other than a familial relationship—that exists independently and outside of the sport relationship. Whether a relationship is intimate is based on the totality of the circumstances, including: regular contact and/or interactions outside of or unrelated to the sport relationship (electronically or in person), the parties' emotional connectedness, the exchange of gifts, ongoing physical and/or intimate contact and/or sexual activity, identity as a couple, the sharing of sensitive personal information, and/or intimate knowledge about each other's lives outside the sport relationship.

2. Exposing a Minor to Imagery

An adult Participant violates this Policy by intentionally exposing a Minor to imagery of a sexual nature. This provision does not exclude the possibility that similar behavior between adults could constitute Sexual Harassment, as defined in this Policy.

3. Intentional Exposure of Private Areas

An adult Participant violates this Policy by intentionally exposing breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals, or induces another to do so, to an adult where there is a Power Imbalance, or to a Minor.

4. Inappropriate Physical Contact

An adult Participant violates this Policy by engaging in inappropriate physical contact with a Participant where there is a Power Imbalance. Such inappropriate contact includes, but is not limited to, intentionally:

- a. touching, slapping, or otherwise contacting the buttocks or genitals of a Participant;
- b. excessively touching or hugging a Participant;
- c. kissing a Participant.

5. Sex Offender Registry

A Participant who is currently on any state, federal, territorial, or tribal sex offender registry is ineligible to participate with DASA in any capacity.

VIOLATIONS

Violations of the Sport Protection Policy shall be reported pursuant to DASA's Reporting Policy and will be addressed under its Disciplinary Rules and Procedure.

SECTION 4: ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICIES

SUPERVISION OF ATHLETES AND PARTICIPANTS

During training and competition, DASA strives to create two-deep leadership and minimize one-on-one interactions to create a safe training environment and to protect athletes and participants. Two-deep leadership means a minimum of two adult Covered Individuals, or one Covered Individual and the parent/guardian of the relevant athlete, are present when working with an athlete.

For purposes of this Section 4, “ward” means an individual, whether an adult or a minor, who has a legal guardian.

Covered Individuals are required to abide by these Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies at all Disabled Athlete Sports Association -controlled activities and events, and facilities under DASA’s jurisdiction (to mean facilities owned and controlled by DASA).

APPROPRIATE ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

One-on-one interactions between a minor/ward athlete and a Covered Individual (who is not the athlete’s parent or guardian) are permitted only if they occur at an observable and interruptible distance by another adult, as described in “Individual Care or Support Session,” or in emergency circumstances.

Monitoring. When one-on-one interactions between Covered Individuals and minor/ward athletes occur at DASA events, other Covered Individuals will monitor these interactions. Monitoring includes: knowing that the one-on-one interaction is occurring, the approximate planned duration of the interaction, and randomly dropping in on the one-on-one.

Out-of-program contacts. Covered Individuals are prohibited from interacting one-on-one with unrelated minor/ward athletes in settings outside of the DASA programs that are not observable and interruptible (including, but not limited to, one’s home and individual transportation), unless parent/legal guardian consent is provided for each out-of-program contact. Nonetheless, such arrangements are strongly discouraged.

Individual Meetings

An individual meeting may be necessary to address an athlete’s concerns, training program or competition schedule. Under these circumstances, Covered Individuals are to observe the following guidelines.

- Any individual meeting should occur when others are present and where interactions are at an observable and interruptible distance by another adult.

- Where possible, an individual meeting should take place in a publicly visible and open area, such as the corner of a field of play or preparation area.
- If an individual meeting is to take place in an office, the door should remain unlocked and open, and any windows must be uncovered.

Individual Training Sessions

An individual training session(s) with a minor/ward athlete may also be desired or necessary. Under these circumstances, written permission of a minor/ward athlete's parent or guardian is required in advance of the individual training session(s), and DASA encourages parents and guardians to attend the training session. Individual training sessions should be observable and interruptible by another adult at all times.

Individual Care or Support Sessions

Athletes with disabilities may require additional care or support sessions that should be administered in a private setting. Written permission of the athlete, or a ward athlete's parent or guardian, if applicable, is required in advance of such individual care or support session(s), and sessions must be conducted in compliance with this Handbook and any other applicable DASA policies or protocols. and must notify, if at all possible, a Covered Individual on location before any individual care or support session takes place. Such individual care or support sessions may include:

- Toileting
- Diapering
- Assistance in changing between clothing and sports equipment

PROHIBITED ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

Except as set forth above, minor/ward athletes and participants will not be left unattended or unsupervised during DASA activities, including being left alone during practice time, and DASA. Covered Individuals are prohibited from being alone with an individual minor/ward athlete or participant in any room or building.

VIOLATIONS

Violations of this policy must be reported to DASA pursuant to its Reporting Policy. Violations will be addressed under the Disciplinary Rules and Procedure and may result in the sanctions as set forth therein, including temporary or permanent suspension. **Some violations may constitute physical or sexual abuse that must be reported to appropriate law enforcement authorities.**

PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH ATHLETES

Appropriate physical contact between athletes and coaches is a productive and inevitable part of sport. Athletes are more likely to acquire advanced physical skills and enjoy their sport participation through appropriate physical contact. Especially in adaptive sports, athletes may require physical assistance with equipment and movement. However, guidelines for appropriate physical contact reduce the potential for misconduct in sport.

APPROPRIATE PHYSICAL CONTACT

Disabled Athlete Sports Association adheres to the following principles and guidelines in regards to physical contact with our athletes.

Common Criteria for Appropriate Physical Contact

Physical contact with athletes – for safety, consolation and celebration – has multiple criteria in common which make them both safe and appropriate. These include:

- the physical contact takes place in public
- there is no potential for, or actual, physical or sexual intimacies during the physical contact
- athlete receive verbal notice of the contact about to take place
- the physical contact is for the benefit of the athlete, not to meet an emotional or other need of an adult

Safety

The safety of our athletes is paramount, and in many instances, we make the athletic space safer through appropriate physical contact. Examples include:

- spotting an athlete so that they will not be injured by a fall or piece of equipment
- positioning an athlete's body so that they more quickly acquire an athletic skill, get a better sense of where their body is in space, or improve their balance and coordination (with the athlete's consent)
- in emergencies, making athletes aware that they might be in harm's way because of other athletes practicing around them or because of equipment in use

Celebration

Sports are physical by definition, and we recognize participants often express their

joy of participation, competition, achievement and victory through physical acts. Appropriate public expressions of celebration include:

- greeting gestures such as high-fives and fist bumps
- congratulatory gestures such as celebratory side hugs, “jump-arounds” and pats on the back for any form of athletic or personal accomplishment

Consolation

It may be appropriate to console an emotionally distressed athlete (e.g., an athlete who just lost a competition). Appropriate consolation includes publicly:

- putting an arm around an athlete while verbally engaging them in an effort to calm them down (“side hugs”)

PROHIBITED PHYSICAL CONTACT

Prohibited forms of physical contact, which shall be reported immediately under our Reporting Policy include, without limitation:

- massages or rubdowns
- asking or having an athlete sit in the lap of a Covered Individual
- lingering or repeated embraces of athletes that go beyond the criteria set forth for acceptable physical contact
- slapping, hitting, punching, kicking or any other physical contact meant to discipline, punish or achieve compliance from an athlete
- “cuddling” or maintaining prolonged physical contact during any aspect of training, travel or overnight stay
- playful, yet inappropriate contact that is not a part of regular training (e.g., tickling or “horseplay” wrestling)
- continued physical contact that makes an athlete obviously uncomfortable, whether expressed or not
- any contact that is contrary to a previously expressed personal desire for decreased or no physical contact, where such decreased contact is feasible in a competitive training environment;

- physical conduct in violation of Section 3, the Sport Protection Policy, of this Handbook.

VIOLATIONS

Violations of this policy must be reported to DASA pursuant to its Reporting Policy. Violations will be addressed under the Disciplinary Rules and Procedure and may result in the sanctions as set forth therein, including temporary or permanent suspension. **Some violations may constitute physical or sexual abuse that must be reported to appropriate law enforcement authorities.**

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

As part of DASA's emphasis on athlete safety, all electronic communications between a Covered Individual and athlete must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. The concept of two-deep leadership extends into cyber space. There should be no one-one-one online or digital activities between a Covered Individual and a minor/ward athlete.

Electronic communication with a minor/ward athlete should copy the athlete's parent or guardian. If a minor/ward athlete communicates to the Covered Individual privately first, said Covered Individual should copy the athlete's parent or guardian on the response.

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Coaches may not "friend" or "follow" DASA athletes through the coach's personal social media page(s) or account(s). Athletes may friend the official DASA page. Covered Individuals with authority over minor athletes are not permitted to maintain private social media connections with unrelated minor athletes and such Covered Individuals are not permitted to accept new personal page requests on social media platforms from athletes who are minors, unless the Covered Individual has a fan page, or the contact is deemed as celebrity contact vs. regular contact. Existing social media connections on personal pages with minor athletes shall be discontinued.

INSTANT MESSAGING, FACEBOOK MESSAGING, DIRECT MESSAGING, AND SIMILAR MEDIA

Coaches and athletes may "follow" each other. Coaches cannot "re-tweet" athlete message posts without permission of the athlete, or in the case of minors or wards, their parent or guardian. Coaches should use best judgment and professionalism in the content of their public media posting.

All direct posts and messaging between coach and athlete must be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities and shall copy parents/guardians as required herein.

EMAIL, TEXTING, AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Athletes and coaches may use email or texting to communicate. All email content between coach and athlete must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. Parents or guardians must be copied on communications from a Covered Individual to a minor/ward athlete. Where the Covered Individual is a staff member, emails to any athlete should come from the DASA service (the coach's return email address will contain "@dasasports.org"). Communications to an entire team need not be copied to all parents or guardians but must at a minimum be copied to another Covered Individual.

ELECTRONIC IMAGERY

From time to time, digital photos, videos of practice or competition, and other images of athletes – individually or in groups – may be taken by individuals designated by DASA specifically for that purpose. These photos and/or videos may be submitted to local, state or national publications, used in DASA videos or publications, posted on DASA or DASA associated websites or offered to DASA athlete families seasonally on disc or other electronic form. Such imagery must be appropriate and in the best interest of the athlete and DASA. Imagery must not be contrary to any rules as outlined in DASA's Sport Protection Handbook or other applicable DASA policies.

REQUEST TO DISCONTINUE ALL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS OR IMAGERY

The athlete, or the parents or guardians of a minor/ward athlete may request, in writing, that their child/ward not be contacted by any form of electronic communication by coaches, and/or that photography or videography of their athlete not be taken or shared. DASA will abide by all such requests, absent emergency circumstances.

MISCONDUCT

Social media and electronic communications can also be used to commit misconduct (e.g., emotional, sexual, bullying, harassment and hazing). Such communications by Covered Individuals or other DASA participants will not be tolerated and are considered violations of this Handbook.

VIOLATIONS

Violations of this policy must be reported to DASA pursuant to its Reporting Policy. Violations will be addressed under the Disciplinary Rules and Procedure and may result in the sanctions as set forth therein, including temporary or permanent suspension. **Some violations may constitute physical or sexual abuse that must be reported to appropriate law enforcement authorities.**

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS

The following guidelines are designed to maintain personal privacy, as well as to reduce the risk of misconduct in locker rooms and changing areas.

FACILITIES

DASA hosts camps and training sessions for athletes at third party locations throughout the year and for various sports activities.

These locations may have a changing area, locker room, or bathroom that is shared with the general public. As such, there are likely to be people who are not associated with DASA at these locations. **Covered Individuals are nevertheless required to abide by the Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies at such locations.**

The facilities may differ from location to location. We will work with the local host location to provide as much information about the locker room, bathroom and changing areas as early as possible, and post that information as soon as it is available.

MONITORING

DASA has staggered practices, with different groups arriving and departing throughout the day. While DASA does not generally post staff members inside or at the doors of the locker rooms and changing areas, staff members do make occasional sweeps of these areas. Staff members conduct these sweeps, with women checking on female-designated areas and men checking on male-designated areas.

Coaches and staff make every effort to recognize when an athlete goes to the locker room or changing area during practice and competition and, if they do not return in a timely fashion, will check on the athlete's whereabouts.

DASA discourages parents from entering locker rooms and changing areas unless it is truly necessary. In those instances, it should only be a same-sex parent. If this is necessary, parents should let a DASA coach or staff person on site know about this in advance.

If an athlete needs assistance with his or her uniform or gear or an athlete's disability warrants assistance, then DASA asks that parents or guardians let an on-site coach or an administrator know beforehand that he or she will be helping the athlete, and when. However, parents must still abide by all DASA policies regarding use of locker rooms, bathrooms, and changing areas, they may not be alone with unrelated athletes in such areas, and must abide by restrictions regarding female- and male-designated areas.

MIXED-GENDER TEAMS

DASA teams consists of athletes of different genders. Privacy rights must be given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. Where possible, DASA has the male and female players dress/undress in separate locker rooms and then convene

in a single meeting space before the training session or team meeting. Once the event is finished, the athletes may come to one meeting room and then the male and female players proceed to their separate dressing rooms to undress and shower (separately), if available. If separate locker rooms are not available, then the athletes will take turns using the locker room to change.

USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER MOBILE RECORDING DEVICES

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras increase the risk for different forms of misconduct in locker rooms and changing areas. As a result, **THERE WILL BE NO USE OF A DEVICE'S RECORDING CAPABILITIES IN THE LOCKER ROOMS OR CHANGING AREAS.** Such devices should be left outside of the locker room in a secure area, vehicle or checked with a coach or adult volunteer.

ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

Except for athletes on the same team, at no time are unrelated Covered Individuals permitted to be alone with a minor/ward athlete in a locker room or changing, except under emergency circumstances.

If DASA is using a facility that only has a single locker room or changing area, we will designate separate times for use by Covered Individuals, if any.

UNDRESS

Under no circumstances shall an unrelated Covered Individual intentionally expose his or her breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals to an athlete.

VIOLATIONS

Violations of this policy must be reported to DASA pursuant to its Reporting Policy. Violations will be addressed under the Disciplinary Rules and Procedure and may result in the sanctions as set forth therein, including temporary or permanent suspension. **Some violations may constitute physical or sexual abuse that must be reported to appropriate law enforcement authorities.**

TRAVEL

Disabled Athlete Sports Association has established policies to guide our travel, minimize one-on-one interactions and reduce the risk of misconduct. Adherence to these travel guidelines will increase athlete safety and improve the competitive experience while keeping travel a fun and enjoyable experience.

LOCAL AND GROUP TRAVEL

Disabled Athlete Sports Association distinguishes between travel to training, practice and local competition ("local travel"), and group travel involving a coordinated overnight stay ("group travel").

Local Travel

Local travel occurs when DASA does not sponsor, coordinate or arrange for travel. For local travel, athletes or their parents/guardians (for minor athletes) are responsible for making all travel arrangements. In these instances, it is the responsibility of the athlete or their parents/guardians (for minor/ward athletes) to ensure the person transporting the athlete maintains all safety and legal requirements, including, but not limited to, a valid driver's license, proper insurance, well maintained vehicle and compliance with all state laws.

In an effort to minimize one-on-one interactions, Covered Individuals, who are not also acting as a parent or guardian, may not drive alone with an unrelated minor/ward athlete and should only drive with at least two other minor/ward athletes or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor/ward athlete's parent or guardian in advance of travel. In any case where a Covered Individual is involved in the minor/ward athlete's local travel, a parental release is required in advance. Efforts must be made to ensure that Covered Individuals are not alone with a minor/ward athlete or minor/ward participant, by, e.g., picking the athletes up in groups.

Covered Individuals who also are an athlete's parent or guardian may provide transportation for their own athlete without restriction, but must still comply with the requirements above with respect to all other athletes. We encourage parents and guardians to pick up their athlete first and drop off their athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement. We also recommend completing a shared travel declaration form signed by the parents/guardians of any minor/ward athlete who is being transported as part of such a carpool arrangement.

Group Travel

Group travel is overnight travel that occurs when DASA sponsors, coordinates or arranges for travel so that its athletes can train or compete locally, regionally, or nationally. Because of the greater distances, coaches, staff, volunteers and chaperones will often travel with the athletes. However, no Covered Individual will engage in team travel without the proper safety requirements in place, including valid drivers' licenses, proper insurance, well-maintained vehicles and compliance with all state laws.

DASA makes efforts to provide adequate supervision through coaches and other adult chaperones on groups with minor/ward athletes. DASA policy dictates a maximum ratio of nine minor/ward athletes to one chaperone on trips and away camps.

For group travel, hotels and air travel will be booked in advance DASA. Athletes will share rooms, with 2-4 athletes assigned per room depending on accommodations. DASA will notify hotel management should any special arrangements be warranted. For instance, we will ask hotels to block pay per view channels and remove mini-bars. DASA will request an additional large room or suite so that our members and athletes may socialize as a group. Meetings do not occur in hotel rooms, and we will reserve a separate space for coaches and athletes to socialize. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with DASA's policies regarding one-on-one interactions (i.e. all meetings shall be observable and interruptible, among other requirements). When doing room checks, attending team meetings and/or other activities, two-deep leadership (two Covered Individuals should be present) and observable and interruptible environments should be maintained.

For minor/ward athletes, DASA permits family members to stay at the hotel. We encourage all athletes to call parents and guardians regularly and allow for any unscheduled calls by either the athlete or parent/guardian.

Group travel policies must be signed and agreed to by all athletes, parents, and Covered Individuals traveling with DASA. Covered Individuals who travel with the organization must successfully pass a background check and other screening requirements consistent with DASA's policies.

Please note that regardless of the location of the event, DASA policies on providing alcohol to minors follows U.S. law, and parents and guardians are expected to adhere to this policy, especially when staying near or with the group. No parent should provide alcohol to minors during DASA travel. Violations of this policy will be addressed under the Disciplinary Rules and Procedure and may result in the sanctions as set forth therein, including, but not limited to, temporary or permanent suspension from competition or participation with DASA.

TRAVEL NOTIFICATION

When possible, DASA will provide reasonable advance notice of details before group travel. Notice will include the dates, location and duration of competition. Travel notice also will include designated group hotels for overnight stays, as well as a contact person within DASA. For minors and wards, this individual will be the point of contact to confirm your intention to travel and to help with travel details.

For minor/ward athletes, DASA will distribute specific travel itineraries when they become available. These will include a more detailed, hour-by-hour itinerary, as well as contact information for group travel chaperones.

MIXED-GENDER AND MIXED-AGE TRAVEL

Disabled Athlete Sports Association groups are sometimes made up of male and female athletes across various ages. Athletes will only share a room with other athletes of the same sex and age group. Athletes will be grouped by age and sex for the purposes of assigning an appropriate chaperone. DASA will make every effort to provide these groups at least one chaperone of the same sex.

Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with an athlete (unless the coach is the parent, guardian, sibling or spouse of that particular athlete). Where an adult is registered both as a coach and an athlete member of a DASA group or camp, and is functioning primarily as a coach, he or she may share sleeping arrangements with another registered coach.

COACH AND STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

During group travel, coaches and staff members will help athletes, fellow coaches and staff members adhere to policy guidelines, including, without limitation, the Travel Policy, Locker Rooms and Changing Areas Policy and Reporting Policy.

If a coach or staff member transports an athlete or other organization member in their private car or a vehicle rented or owned by DASA for group travel, a copy of the coach's or staff member's valid driver's license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance is required and must be on file with DASA in advance.

When not practicing, training, competing or preparing for competition, coaches and staff will monitor the activities of athletes, fellow coaches and staff during group travel. Coaches and staff will:

- a. prepare athletes for group travel and make athletes aware of all expectations.
- b. familiarize themselves with all travel itineraries and schedules before the initiation of group travel
- c. conform to, and monitor for others' adherence, the Sport Protection Policy and all policies during group travel
- d. encourage athletes to participate in regular, at least daily, scheduled communications with their parents/guardians, if applicable
- e. help athletes be on time for all group commitments (as possible)
- f. assist with group travel logistical needs (as possible)

- g. support chaperones and/or participate in the monitoring of athletes for adherence to curfew restrictions set based on age and competition schedule as listed in travel itinerary
- h. ensure athletes are complying with hotel room restrictions based on gender or age bracket requirements
- i. make certain that athletes are not alone in a hotel room with any adult apart from a family member; this includes coaches, staff and chaperones
- j. not use drugs or alcohol in the presence of minors or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while performing their coaching duties
- k. immediately report any concerns about physical or sexual abuse, misconduct, or policy violations
- l. notify parents before taking any disciplinary action against a minor athlete if the athlete is traveling without his or her parents
- m. immediately address and report any concerns about sexual and physical abuse, misconduct or policy violations as required under this Handbook and applicable law.

CHAPERONE RESPONSIBILITIES

Chaperones accompany group travel to ensure that the athletes, coaches, staff and volunteers adhere to the DASA's policy guidelines. While these include the travel policy, it also includes all other relevant policies contained in DASA's Sport Protection Handbook.

Chaperones must have undergone a criminal background check and awareness training, as outlined in this Handbook.

If a chaperone will be operating a private car for group travel, a copy of the chaperone's valid driver's license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance is required and must be on file with DASA.

Chaperones will monitor the activities of all coaches, staff members, volunteers and athletes during group travel. Specifically, chaperones will:

- a. familiarize themselves with all travel itineraries and schedules before group travel
- b. encourage athletes to participate in regular, at least daily, scheduled communications with their parents/guardians, as applicable

- c. help athletes be on time for all group commitments (as possible)
- d. assist coaches, staff and other volunteers with group travel logistical needs (as possible)
- e. monitor athletes for adherence to curfew restrictions set based on age and competition schedule as listed in travel itinerary
- f. ensure athletes comply with hotel room restrictions based on gender or age bracket requirements
- g. not use drugs or alcohol in the presence of minors or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while performing their chaperone duties
- h. make certain that athletes are not alone in a hotel room with any adult, including coaches, staff and chaperones, apart from a family member or guardian
- i. immediately address and report any concerns about sexual and physical abuse, misconduct or policy violations as required under this Handbook and applicable law.

VIOLATIONS

Violations of this policy must be reported to DASA pursuant to its Reporting Policy. Violations will be addressed under the Disciplinary Rules and Procedure and may result in the sanctions as set forth therein, including temporary or permanent suspension. **Some violations may constitute physical or sexual abuse that must be reported to appropriate law enforcement authorities.**

SECTION 5: RESPONDING TO ABUSE, MISCONDUCT AND POLICY VIOLATIONS

REPORTING POLICY

REPORTING

Note: Nothing in this policy shall be construed to require a victim of child abuse or other misconduct to self-report.

No one should investigate suspicions or allegations of child abuse or other Prohibited Conduct, or attempt to evaluate the credibility or validity of allegations as a condition of reporting to DASA or to appropriate authorities.

A. Reporting Requirements related to:

1. Child Abuse

A Covered Individual who learns of information and reasonably suspects that a child has suffered an incident of child abuse, including sexual abuse, shall immediately make a report of the suspected abuse to *both* Law Enforcement and DASA:

a. Law Enforcement

- i. The agency designated by the Attorney General, consistent with federal requirements set forth in section 226 of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (34 U.S.C. § 20341).
- ii. Any applicable state law enforcement agencies.

Learn more about this requirement by visiting:

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/responding/reporting>

b. Disabled Athlete Sports Association

- i. Through DASA's online reporting form, dasa@dasasports.org.
- ii. By Phone at 636-477-0716 during regular business hours
(Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM)
- iii. Directly to DASA's Incident Review Official: Kelly Behlmann

Reporting such conduct to DASA does not satisfy an Adult Participant's obligation to report to law enforcement or other appropriate authorities consistent with section 226 of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (34 U.S.C. § 20341).

2. Sexual Misconduct

DASA encourages *anyone* who experiences or becomes aware of an incident of Sexual Misconduct involving a Participant to immediately report the incident to DASA (and/or to law enforcement if the matter involves possible criminal conduct).

Covered Individuals **must** promptly report possible Sexual Misconduct directly to DASA whenever such Participants become aware of conduct that could constitute Sexual Misconduct.

3. Emotional and Physical Misconduct

Covered Individuals are required to report to DASA's emotional and physical misconduct (including bullying, stalking, hazing, and harassment) prohibited under this Handbook, and violations of other proactive policies. Reports to DASA can be made:

- i. Through DASA's online reporting form, [dasa@dasasports.org].
- ii. By Phone at 636-477-0716, during regular business hours
(Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM)
- iii. Directly to the DASA's Incident Review Official: Kelly Behlmann

4. Other Misconduct and Abuse of Disabled Individuals

Covered Individuals are required to report to DASA all other Prohibited Conduct or Handbook violations. **Covered Individuals may also be required to report abuse of disabled individuals to a state agency in certain jurisdictions.**

B. Anonymous Reports

Reports may be made anonymously to DASA. Anonymity means DASA will not know the personally identifying information of the reporter. It does not mean that the underlying information will be protected. However, an anonymous report may limit DASA's ability to investigate and respond to a report, and if an Adult Participant reports anonymously, it may not be possible for DASA to verify that mandatory reporting obligations have been satisfied. *Consequently, DASA strongly encourages Covered Individuals to provide their name and contact information when reporting.*

C. Confidentiality for Third-Party Reporters

Unless necessary to DASA's investigation or resolution of a matter, DASA does not disclose a Third-Party Reporter's personally identifying information.

D. Reporting Options for Claimants

A Claimant may choose to make a report DASA to pursue resolution under these procedures and may also choose to make a report to law enforcement and/or pursue

available civil or administrative remedies. A Claimant may pursue one, some, or all of these options at the same time.

A Claimant who wishes to pursue criminal action in addition to, or instead of, making a report under these procedures should contact law enforcement and/or legal counsel directly.

E. Claimant's Request for Anonymity

A Claimant may request that personally-identifying information not be shared with a Respondent. DASA will seek to honor the Claimant's request(s) if it is possible to do so while also protecting the health and safety of the Claimant and the sporting community.

If the Claimant's request for anonymity can be honored

If DASA determines a Claimant's request that personally-identifying information not be shared with Respondent can be honored, the Center may take other appropriate steps designed to eliminate the reported conduct, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effect on the Claimant and sporting community. Those steps may include offering appropriate remedial measures to the Claimant, providing targeted training or prevention programs, and/or providing or imposing other remedies tailored to the circumstances as a form of alternative resolution.

If the Claimant's request for anonymity cannot be honored

If DASA determines it cannot honor a Claimant's request(s) that personally-identifying information not be shared with the Respondent, that no investigation be pursued, and/or that no disciplinary action be taken, DASA may direct appropriate actions, which may include, without limitation: (i) imposing a no contact directive or other temporary measure; (ii) initiating an investigation; and (iii) arranging, imposing, or extending any other appropriate remedial and/or protective measures.

In such cases, DASA will make reasonable efforts to protect the privacy of the Claimant. However, actions that may be required as part of any investigation will involve speaking with the Respondent and others who may have relevant information, in which case the Claimant's identity may have to be disclosed. In such cases, DASA will notify the Claimant that DASA intends to proceed with an investigation, but the Claimant is not required to participate in the investigation or in any other actions taken by DASA.

F. Privacy

Disabled Athlete Sports Association is committed to protecting the privacy of all individuals involved in the investigation and resolution of reported allegations. With respect to any report under these procedures, DASA, in its discretion, will make reasonable efforts to protect the privacy of individuals involved in DASA's process,

while balancing the need to gather information to assess a report and to take steps to eliminate Prohibited Conduct.

Information will be shared as necessary with DASA staff and counsel, witnesses, and the parties. It may also be necessary for DASA to notify law enforcement of an allegation of misconduct.

Parental/Guardian Notification

The Center reserves the right to notify guardians of Claimants regarding any health or safety risk.

HOW REPORTS ARE HANDLED

Suspensions or Allegations of Child Physical or Sexual Abuse and Abuse of Disabled Persons

DASA will report all suspicions or allegations of child physical or sexual abuse to appropriate law enforcement authorities. DASA will also report abuse of disabled persons to law enforcement as required by law or on its own initiative. DASA will not attempt to evaluate the credibility or validity of the allegations as a condition for reporting to appropriate law enforcement authorities. As necessary, however, DASA may ask a few clarifying questions of the person making the report to adequately report the suspicion or allegation to law enforcement authorities.

Immediate Suspension or Termination

When an allegation of physical or sexual abuse, or other misconduct, is made against a Participant, DASA may immediately remove that individual from contact with DASA participants until the allegation has been investigated by an official law enforcement agency DASA makes further inquiry, or otherwise.

NOTIFICATION

Following DASA's notice of a credible allegation of misconduct by a Participant, DASA may consider the circumstances in which it will notify parents or guardians of athletes with whom the accused individual may have had contact. DASA's discretion, as appropriate, DASA may notify its staff members, contractors, volunteers, parents, and/or athletes of any allegation of child physical or sexual abuse or other criminal behavior or misconduct that (1) law enforcement authorities are actively investigating; or (2) DASA is investigating internally. Advising others of an allegation may lead to additional reports of child physical or sexual abuse and other misconduct.

DISCIPLINARY RULES AND PROCEDURE

RECEIPT OF ALLEGATIONS

On receipt of an allegation of misconduct or other violation of this Handbook, DASA will determine in its discretion the appropriate steps to address the conduct based on several factors, including (i) the age of the Claimant, (ii) the age of the Respondent, and (iii) the nature, scope and extent of the allegations. In addition to reporting to law enforcement as required or as DASA may determine, possible responses include emergency suspension, further investigation, or other disciplinary action. DASA may undertake a formal investigation in its discretion and may investigate allegations of child physical or sexual abuse, or other misconduct, that have been reported to law enforcement if such investigation does not interfere with any ongoing criminal investigation or prosecution for the same. If the Respondent is a minor, DASA will contact his or her parents or guardians.

DASA will address allegations against a staff member under its employment policies.

EMERGENCY SUSPENSION

In certain cases, DASA may temporarily suspend the Respondent pending final resolution of the complaint to eliminate any potential danger to an athlete, sport participant or other individual. Such temporary suspension is not subject to contest or appeal. The determination to temporarily suspend an individual shall be made by Kelly Behlmann.

An emergency suspension may prohibit the Respondent from participating in any capacity or in any role in the business, events or activities of DASA during the suspension, or impose other appropriate restrictions.

INVESTIGATION

As appropriate, and at its discretion, DASA may institute a formal investigation of the allegations.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

In cases where DASA determines that an investigation is not necessary, or after investigation if applicable, DASA's Kelly Behlmann shall determine the appropriate disciplinary action in each case, if any. Sanctions for violations of the Sport Protection Handbook will be proportionate and reasonable under the circumstances. DASA may take the following disciplinary actions, without limitation:

- Inform the Respondent's direct-line supervisor or in the case of a minor, the minor's parent or guardian
- Provide the Respondent with guidance, redirection and instruction
- Temporary suspension from competition or participation
- Issue a verbal warning

- Issue a written warning
- Implement a limited access agreement (e.g., limiting an individual's access to certain facilities)
- Engage in restorative practices (i.e., creation of a respectful and safe dialogue when a misunderstanding or harm has occurred)
- Suspend or terminating employment, membership, or participation

DASA will notify a Respondent in writing of Kelly Behlmann's decision. A copy of such decision shall be sent to Disabled Sports USA.

APPEAL

A Respondent shall have the option, within 10 days of the date of written notice of any disciplinary action, to appeal Kelly Behlmann's decision to the Executive Committee of DASA's Board of Directors. Any appeal must be in writing and clearly state the grounds for appeal.

The Executive Committee of DASA's Board of Directors may ask additional questions of the Respondent, Claimant, or other witnesses. The decision of the Executive Committee of DASA's Board of Directors, is final and binding. A copy of such decision shall be sent to Disabled Sports USA.

SECTION 6: MONITORING DISABLED ATHLETE SPORTS ASSOCIATION'S STRATEGY

By monitoring the interactions among staff, volunteers, athletes and others, DASA works to prevent, recognize and respond to inappropriate and harmful behaviors as set forth in our Sport Protection Handbook, while reinforcing appropriate behaviors.

MONITORING COMPLIANCE WITH POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

DASA monitors for compliance with its policies and procedures, including without limitation, its Awareness Training, Travel, Locker Room and Changing Areas and Physical Contact Policies.

MONITORING METHODS

DASA utilizes multiple monitoring methods to observe how individuals are interacting, including without limitation (1) formal supervision, including regular evaluations; and (2) informal supervision, including regular and random observation (e.g., roving and checking interactions throughout practices), and (3) maintaining frequent contact with staff members, volunteer and athletes who interact off-site.

RESPONDING TO INTERACTIONS

While DASA has a formal reporting policy, staff members and volunteers should be prepared to respond immediately to inappropriate or harmful behavior, potential risk situations and potential boundary violations.

Staff members and volunteers will redirect inappropriate behaviors to promote positive behaviors, confront inappropriate or harmful behaviors and report behaviors if necessary.