



USA Racquetball

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February 15, 2018

Honorable Jerry Moran
Chairman

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data
Security

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Richard Blumenthal
Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data
Security

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Letter of February 2, 2018

Dear Senator Moran and Senator Blumenthal:

I appreciate the opportunity to answer your questions related to the safety of USA Racquetball's membership as we take this issue with the highest importance. As a small NGB, we are appreciative of the guidance that the Center for SafeSport has provided us in structuring our policies and guidelines when dealing with Athlete safety. We look forward to working with you to ensure that all Athletes are protected and the correct authorities are notified if such an instance occurs.

- 1) Our protocols for handling any child or sexual abuse allegations from our membership include a specialized reporting email address and contact person within our staff. Our procedure is to immediately notify the Center for SafeSport and the local authorities in such cases. USA Racquetball does not investigate these allegations but does assist with Center for SafeSport and local authorities' investigations if needed. In the case of a member or certified instructor, we immediately suspend their membership and notify the State Associations of this suspension.
- 2) We do not have any special accommodations regarding volunteers employed by outside organizations. If an allegation is brought forward we follow our procedures of notifying the Center for SafeSport and the local authorities. If we are aware of an individual being employed with another organization, we would also notify that organization of the allegation.

- 3) USA Racquetball has never used an NDA with an athlete, volunteer or employee to my knowledge as Executive Director.
- 4) USA Racquetball does utilize a contract with our USA Racquetball Team athletes for the duration of their tenure on our Teams. This contract outlines the responsibilities of being a USA Racquetball Team member, guidelines for behavior as a member of the USA Racquetball Team and any payment arrangements for competing as a member of the US Racquetball Team.
- 5) USA Racquetball has implemented all the Center for SafeSport recommendations and has sought to educate our coaches, members, parents, staff and other organizations associated with USA Racquetball about our processes for reporting complaints. We have been working to improve our processes with the Center for SafeSport since the opening of the center.
- 6) We currently do not have any such incidents of the USOC not taking any action following a report of criminal behavior from our organization. As of this date we do not have any incidents that have been brought forward.
- 7) USA Racquetball is very proud to have completed the audit of our SafeSport policies and procedures with no recommendations from the auditors. We were proud to have been in full compliance from the start of the audit and continue to work hard implementing any changes or recommendations that come from the Center for SafeSport.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you for reaching out to USA Racquetball regarding this most important subject. Our athlete and member safety is priority number one for our organization. If we can prevent these types of actions from occurring in the first place that is our mission. If in the event there is an incident of this type of behavior, we will move swiftly to notify the authorities and work towards safely helping the affected individual.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any further questions or would like more clarification on any of your questions that I have answered above. USA Racquetball looks forward to working with you to ensure the safety of all athletes.

Sincerely,



Jason Thoerner
USA Racquetball, Executive Director
jthoerner@usaracquetball.com