



February 13, 2017

Jerry Moran

Chairman

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection

Product Safety, Insurance, and Data Security

United States Senate

Washington, DC 20510

&

Richard Blumenthal

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection

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Sirs,

In response to your letter of February 2, 2018, I am submitting answers to the list of questions you posed for USA Team Handball.

1. USA Team Handball (USATH) has posted our Board approved SafeSport policy on our website and it has been also sent to our member clubs. In this policy we list the on-line contact access link as well as a phone number where individuals can contact the U.S. Center for SafeSport for advice and reporting, and we also advise that law enforcement be contacted directly on any suspected case of child and sexual abuse. A copy of the USATH SafeSport policy can be found at www.usateamhandball.org
2. In USATH's case, we have volunteer medical doctors and certified athletic trainers working with our national teams at the University of Auburn, in Auburn, Alabama. We require that

they complete a SafeSport education program and we require proof of background checks and a review of their credentials. They also are provided a copy of our SafeSport policy that provides protective guidelines as referenced above.

3. USATH has never used an NDA in the scope of our operations.
4. Under the Ted Stevens and Amateur Sports Act, USATH is required to participate in binding arbitration where an athlete alleges that USATH has denied him or her an opportunity to participate in certain competitions, and where a member alleges that USATH has violated certain provisions of the TSOA Sports Act or USOC Bylaws. In these cases, it is the athlete who chooses whether or not to require USATH to participate in binding arbitration, and the athlete is in no way obligated to participate in binding arbitration. With that as background, in response to the request that each NGB describe the cases in which an NGB might require an athlete to participate in forced binding arbitration, USA Team Handball reports that there are no situations where an athlete is required to participate in forced binding arbitration. USATH utilizes a Code of Conduct for athletes and coaches and team officials who participate in sanctioned events. This Code of Conduct provides for generally accepted behavioral standards of expectations when participating in a USATH sanctioned event.
5. The Board of Directors passed the revised SafeSport policy December 26, 2017 which specifically details reporting protocols to improve the transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness of our criminal misconduct reporting mechanisms. We have actively engaged our National Team athletes and coaches, High Performance teams, club leadership, our elected elite athlete representatives and our Board and staff about becoming engaged, informed and aware of all aspects of our SafeSport policy and placing reporting and accountability as essential priorities for safety and protection
6. We have not had a report of criminal behavior against USATH that the USOC might be expected to take action upon.
7. I am attaching the 'Report Card' issued by the third-party audit of USATH's compliance with SafeSport policies and expectations. This USATH SafeSport policy was updated and subsequently Board approved to replace the reference from minors to athletes in an attempt to be more inclusive of individuals protected under the USATH SafeSport policy. This was one recommendation was made as a result of the above referenced third-party audit. This latest Board approved revision was dated December 26, 2017. The revision was posted promptly on the USATH website – www.usateamhandball.org – for immediate notification with the membership.

USATH remains committed to and will fully embrace all measures that need to be taken to protect the safety of the membership we serve.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Cavanaugh

CEO – USA Team Handball

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Colorado Springs, CO 80909



Member, U.S. Olympic Committee