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To be the leading authority
to the sport, servicing the
needs of bowling.

**A Future FOR
THE Sport®**

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 serve as Executive Director for the United States Bowling Congress (USBC), a member National Governing Body of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC). On behalf of our Board of Directors and Staff here at USBC, we appreciate your giving us the opportunity for this dialogue on protecting the health and safety of athletes.

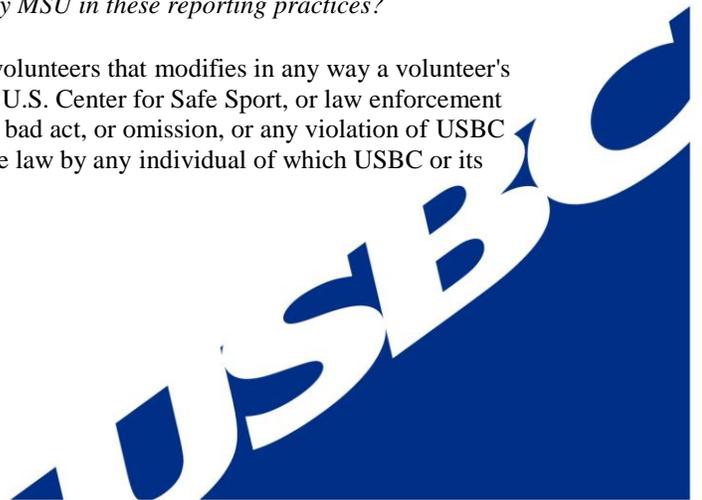
We certainly echo the sentiments shared by Max Cobb, Chair of the USOC National Governing Bodies Council in his February 6, 2018 letter to the Subcommittee. I have been Executive Director of USBC since June of 2014 and am glad to respond to each of your questions based on my direct knowledge from that date forward and my research into your questions with current staff and legal counsel.

1) *What reporting protocols for child and sexual abuse allegations are currently in place to ensure that all reports receive fair, timely, and thorough review by all appropriate parties, including law enforcement?*

USBC has implemented a SafeSport policy in collaboration with the U.S. Center for SafeSport. USBC has adopted SafeSport's recommended protocols and published links to the SafeSport Practices and Procedures guides prominently on our website BOWL.com. Additionally, SafeSport education and training is required for all USBC Covered Individuals. This including individuals that USBC formally authorizes, approves or appoints to a position of authority over Athletes or to have frequent contact with Athletes; and/or those who serve as a coach, trainer, team staff, medical or paramedical personnel, administrator, official, or other athlete support, personnel, employee or volunteer for Team USA.

2) *Are there special accommodations to account for volunteers that are separately employed by non-NGB institutions, like the case of Dr. Nassar who was employed by MSU in these reporting practices?*

USBC does not have agreements or other arrangements with its volunteers that modifies in any way a volunteer's duty and obligation to report to USBC, or its representatives, the U.S. Center for Safe Sport, or law enforcement officials when that volunteer becomes aware of any wrongdoing, bad act, or omission, or any violation of USBC rules, the rules of the U.S. Center for SafeSport, or any applicable law by any individual of which USBC or its representatives were aware.



3) *Has your organization ever utilized an NDA to enforce confidentiality against any athlete, volunteer or employee in the past? To the extent possible, please provide all details regarding the justification and circumstances surrounding every individual NDA used by your organization.*

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4) *Has your organization ever utilized binding agreements other than NDAs with athletes under your purview? To the extent possible, please provide all details regarding the justification and circumstances surrounding every individual agreement used by your organization.*

My research did not find any example of an NDA or any other binding agreements ever being used that required an athlete to keep confidential and/or not to disclose information about any wrongdoing, bad act, or omission, or any violation of USBC rules, the rules of the U.S. Center for SafeSport, or any applicable law by any individual of which USBC or its representatives were aware.

5) *Since the recent lawsuits filed against USOC, USAG, and MSU for organizational failures to investigate, discipline, or remove Dr. Nassar after complaints of sexual abuse, has your organization taken any additional steps to improve the transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness of its criminal misconduct reporting mechanisms?*

In conjunction with the 2017 opening of the U.S. Center for SafeSport, USBC reviewed and updated its USBC Playing Rules, USBC Bylaws and USBC Association Policy Manual in order to ensure implementation of the most current SafeSport best practices and requirements in these areas.

6) *Please identify any circumstances in which USOC did not take any action following a report of criminal behavior from your organization. To the extent possible, please provide all details regarding the justification and circumstances involved in USOC's decision not to act.*

My research did not identify any such circumstances.

7) *In 2017, USOC engaged with a third-party consultant to assess compliance with SafeSport policies and procedures within USOC and all of its NGBs and High Performance Management Organizations (HPMO). Please describe the report issued for your organization including any recommendations necessary for full compliance. If additional recommendations were issued, what actions were taken by your organization? Are there any remaining recommendations that your organization has yet to fully implement?*

The report recommended USBC review its procedures for tracking and verifying SafeSport education and training. Additionally, the report recommended USBC make an update to SafeSport related documentation and administrative material. USBC implemented the recommendations. USBC received a formal follow-up from the USOC Audit Division confirming all recommendations were implemented and are considered closed.

Thank you for your attention to this important subject. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Chad Murphy
Executive Director
United States Bowling Congress

CC: Frank Wilkinson
Cathy DeSocio