



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,
Product Safety, Insurance and Data Security
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Request for Information

Dear Senator Blumenthal and Senator Moran:

This will respond to your inquiries in your letter of February 2, 2018.

In 2006, USA Water Polo substantially altered its Bylaws, replaced its then Directors and retained the undersigned as its Chief Executive Officer. As a result, the responses to your inquiries are limited to the period 2006 to the present.

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?

In the event that USA Water Polo were to receive a report regarding alleged child or sexual abuse by one of its members, volunteers, employees, officers or directors, it would immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement authority and the U.S. Center for SafeSport.

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?

All USA Water Polo members, volunteers, employees, officers and directors are subject to the reporting protocols described above, whether or not they are separately employed by non-NGB institutions and whether or not the alleged misconduct occurred in connection with their activities as USA Water Polo members, volunteers, employees, officers or directors, or in connection with any separate relationship, such as an employment relationship, that they may have with a third party.

USA Water Polo National Office
2124 Main Street, Suite 240 | Huntington Beach, CA 92648
Phone: 714.500.5445 | Fax: 714.960.2431
usawaterpolo.org

DB2/ 32707447.3

PRIDE ★ INTEGRITY ★ UNITY

Member, U.S. Olympic Committee





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.

USA Water Polo has not utilized a non-disclosure agreement during the period of time covered by these responses.

4. Has your organization ever utilized additional 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.

USA Water Polo has individual agreements with the athlete members of its national teams that cover such matters as their obligations as national team members and licenses to use their name and likenesses. USA Water Polo also has “membership” agreements with all of its athlete members that, among other things, obligate USA Water Polo’s athlete members to comply with USA Water Polo’s Rules Governing Athletes’ Conduct. Among other things, those rules adopt the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s rules relating to sexual relations with athletes and prohibiting various types of abuse. During the time period covered by these responses, USA Water Polo has not had a claim against it involving child or sexual abuse. Accordingly, there have not been any agreements with athletes pertaining to such claims during the time period covered by these responses.

We understand that Anna Yu, a Legislative Assistant to Senator Blumenthal, has indicated that Senators Blumenthal and Moran are also interested in cases in which an NGB has required an athlete to participate in forced binding arbitration. Other than arbitrations mandated by the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, USA Water Polo has not participated in any arbitrations with any athlete during the time period covered by this letter.

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 you (*sic*) organization taken any additional steps to improve the transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness of its criminal misconduct reporting mechanisms?

We are not aware of the dates upon which lawsuits were filed against the USOC, USAG and/or MSU relating to Dr. Nassar’s activities. Our current rules governing athletes’, coaches’ and referees’ conduct were adopted in July 2017. On January 4, 2018, in response to the USOC’s SafeSport audit, our Board of Directors adopted rules governing club administrators’ conduct that were substantially the same as the then existing Rules Governing Coaches’ Conduct.





6. Please identify any circumstance in which [the] 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 to not act.

During the time period covered by these responses, the USOC has not failed to take action following a report of alleged criminal behavior from USA Water Polo.

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)¹. 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?

A copy of the USOC's Report regarding USA Water Polo's SafeSport compliance is enclosed. That report concludes that USA Water Polo is currently fully compliant with all SafeSport policies and procedures. Should the Subcommittee have any questions regarding the steps taken by USA Water Polo in response to the SafeSport audit, I would be happy to supplement this letter with more detailed information.

Christopher Ramsey
Chief Executive Officer, United States Water Polo, Inc.

¹ "About SafeSport: 2017 AuFdit Reports," TEAM USA, <https://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Safe-Sport>, (Feb 1, 2018)

