



## **HAVERFORD HAWKS ICE HOCKEY CLUB** ESTABLISHED 1974

It is the policy of USA Hockey that there shall be no physical abuse of any participant involved in any of its Member Programs by any employee, volunteer, independent contractor or other participant. Physical abuse means physical contact with a participant that intentionally causes or has the potential to cause the participant to sustain bodily harm or personal injury. Physical abuse also includes physical contact with a participant that intentionally creates a threat of immediate bodily harm or personal injury. Physical abuse may also include intentionally hitting or threatening to hit an athlete with objects or sports equipment.

In addition to physical contact or the threat of physical contact of a participant, physical abuse also includes the providing of alcohol to a participant under the age of consent and the providing of illegal drugs or non-prescribed medications to any participant.

Without limiting the above, any act or conduct described as physical abuse or misconduct under applicable federal or state law constitutes physical abuse under this policy.

Physical abuse does not include physical contact that is reasonably designed to coach, teach, demonstrate or improve a hockey skill, including physical conditioning, team building and appropriate discipline. Permitted physical conduct may include, but is not necessarily limited to, shooting pucks at a goaltender, demonstrating checking and other hockey skills, and communicating with or directing participants during the course of a game or practice by touching or moving them in a non-threatening, non-sexual manner. Physical abuse also does not include conduct between opponents that occurs during or in connection with a game that is covered by the USA Hockey Playing Rules. Such conduct should be addressed under Playing Rules.

Any USA Hockey member who engages in any act of physical abuse is subject to appropriate disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension, permanent suspension, and/or referral to law enforcement authorities.

### **Child Abuse and Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements**

Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Child Sexual Abuse Pursuant to the SafeSport Authorization Act, any adult that is authorized by USA Hockey, a member of USA Hockey, or any Member Program, to interact with a Minor or amateur athlete at a Facility or at any event sanctioned USA Hockey or a Member Program, is considered a mandatory reporter. If an Adult Participant reasonably suspects that an incident(s) of Sexual Misconduct has occurred, they must immediately (no later than 24 hours) report the incident(s) to the Center and to applicable law enforcement authorities. An adult Participant's failure to report as set forth above may subject such person to disciplinary action by the Center and/or USA Hockey.

How to Report to Center Reports to the Center may be reported by (1) completing an online report to the Center at [uscenterforsafesport.org/report-aconcern/](https://uscenterforsafesport.org/report-aconcern/), by (2) calling 833-587-7233, or (3) by clicking on a link to the Center's reporting portal found on USA Hockey's website at [usahockey.com/safesportprogram](https://usahockey.com/safesportprogram). Reports to the Center shall be handled according to the SafeSport Code.

**According to the US Center for SafeSport all that have knowledge of the Sexual Misconduct Incident shall report to the Center. If your organization sends out an email to the board of a Sexual Misconduct incident, each of you are a Mandatory Reporter. Recently the Center has recognized reporting by one individual for the benefit of each person that is a Mandatory Reporter. Recently I filed a report and used the language “I am reporting for XYZ Hockey Club board of directors, listing the names of whom your are reporting for”.**

Any report of misconduct or suspicion of child physical or sexual abuse received by USA Hockey will be taken seriously and handled appropriately. If USA Hockey receives a report of physical or sexual misconduct involving a minor, USA Hockey will make a report to the proper authorities. In addition to any legal obligation to report Child Abuse or Sexual Misconduct to law enforcement authorities and the Center, all Adult Participants are requested and strongly encouraged to promptly report any alleged violations of the Sexual Misconduct and Child Abuse Policy to USA Hockey so that USA Hockey is aware of the allegations and can take immediate action when appropriate. Applicable state 4615 West Chester Pike Newtown Square, PA 19073 Cell 610.721.4378 Email: [prothman@aahahockey.org](mailto:prothman@aahahockey.org) law may have other mandatory reporting laws making persons holding certain positions required by law to report suspicions of sexual or physical abuse of a minor or may include additional legal duties to report suspicions or allegations of child physical or sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement authorities. A compilation of DE, NJ and PA state law information on when a person must make a report to law enforcement authorities can be found at:

1. <https://kids.delaware.gov/family-services/child-abuse-and-neglectreporting/>
2. <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/reporting/how/index.html>
3. <https://www.pa.gov/en/agencies/dhs/resources/keep-kids-safe/reportchild-abuse.html>

In some cases, an employee or volunteer may be hesitant about reporting suspected abuse because they are unsure about the credibility of the person making the allegation, are unsure about the credibility or validity of the facts on which the allegations are based, or are concerned about the potential consequences of a false report. It is critical that Adult Participants and others considering reporting should not attempt to evaluate the credibility or validity of child physical or sexual abuse allegations as a condition for or prior to reporting their concerns.

### **Confidentiality and Anonymous Reporting**

To the extent permitted by law and the Center, and as appropriate, USA Hockey and all USA Hockey Member Programs, shall on request keep confidential and not make public the names of potential Claimants, the Respondent, or a reporter of Child Abuse or Sexual Misconduct. USA Hockey or its Affiliates or Member Programs may need to divulge the names of parties to those who need to know in order to investigate an allegation or to effectuate any temporary measures or discipline imposed by USA Hockey, an Affiliate, Member Program, or the Center.