



SAFE SPORT POLICY

Updated: October 14, 2020:

PURPOSE

The Board of Directors of Freestyle BC (FBC) believes that all participants in Freestyle Skiing in BC have the right to safely enjoy the sport at whatever level or position they participate. Athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers have the right to a safe and inclusive training and competitive environment free of maltreatment, abuse, harassment and discrimination.

FBC believes the welfare of everyone involved in the sport is a foremost consideration and in particular, the protection of children/athletes in the sport is the responsibility of each individual, member and special interest group in Freestyle Skiing in BC.

***Creating a culture where everyone can thrive is a shared responsibility.
Together, we can make Freestyle Skiing in BC a safe place for everyone.***

OUR COMMITMENT

Freestyle BC embraces our responsibility to create, foster, and preserve sport settings that ensure positive, healthy, fun, and fulfilling experiences for all individuals. We believe that a Safe Sport environment prioritizes the welfare, safety, and rights of every participant at all times.

Freestyle BC is committed to providing Safe Sport Training to all Coaches, Officials, Judges, and Athletes purchasing an FBC membership. FBC will offer the training through the [Safe Sport Training Module](#) developed by the Coaching Association of Canada. The training will be included with FBC's registrations system, SnowReg, to ensure completion.

Safe Sport training was developed to help anyone involved in sport — whether you have direct contact with athletes or work in the background — to promote physical, psychological, social and spiritual health, in line with the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport.

Freestyle BC's extensive organizational policies reflect our commitment to Safe Sport. Our aim to uphold the values of Safe Sport is incorporated in our Code of Conduct, Bullying and Harassment, Equity and Access, Concussion and Human Resources policies.

OUR APPROACH

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Understand that everyone has a role to play in keeping sport safe, how the misuse of power leads to maltreatment, and the principles of the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport.

AWARENESS

Inform our membership about the various types of maltreatment (e.g. physical, psychological, or sexual maltreatment, neglect, grooming, etc.), the conditions that enable them, and how to recognize signs that they may be happening.

ACTION

Find out what to do if you suspect maltreatment, and how you can create a culture that protects all participants.

SHOWING OUR COMMITMENT

Safe Sport training is a critical element of understanding our responsibility and obligations in an environment free from maltreatment. All FBC members listed below will be provided resources and are required to take the complimentary Safe Sport [online course](#).

WHO IS THE SAFE SPORT TRAINING FOR?

Safe Sport Training will be required for all FBC membership including:

THOSE WITH DIRECT ATHLETE CONTACT

- Provincial team coaches and athletes
- Parents of provincial team athletes
- High-performance staff
- Integrated support team personnel
- Contractors and support coaches
- Head club coaches
- Officials

THOSE WITH NO DIRECT ATHLETE CONTACT

- Freestyle BC staff
- High-performance directors
- Provincial board members
- Club presidents, program directors, and board of directors

- Volunteers

COURSE ACCESS

- Access to the Safe Sport Training free of charge can be found at: <https://SafeSport.coach.ca>

RESPONSIBILITIES

The parties outlined within the scope of this policy have the below responsibilities to protect the safety and welfare of all participants in Freestyle Skiing in BC.

FREESTYLE BC SHALL:

- Ensure that all provincial coaches employed are accredited, licensed and have cleared a background check.
- Ensure that all parties outlined within the scope of the policy are aware of their duties and obligation to report on a timely basis any issues or potential violations of this policy, FBC's Code of Conduct, and the Freedom from Bullying and Harassment Policy.
- Ensure that all athlete agreements and related documents are signed by both the athlete and their legal guardian, where the athlete is a minor.
- Ensure that all athlete communications from a coach or person in an authority position, including but not limited to; email or text correspondence, letters etc. must be shared with the athletes' legal guardian unless approval has been granted by the athletes' legal guardian, where the athlete is a minor.
- Ensure that all training and competition calendar with all travel logistics must be shared and approved by the athletes' legal guardian, prior to travel, where the athlete is a minor.
- Ensure that whenever possible, one-on-one interactions between a coach and an athlete should take place within earshot and in view of the second coach, following the "Rule of Two," except in a medical emergency.

OTHER RELATED POLICIES:

- Athlete travel where possible shall be in a group setting; in cases where one-on-one travel is required, prior approval must be provided by the athletes' legal guardian, where the athlete is a minor.
- FBC staff, including coaches and related personnel shall not initiate contact, or accept supervisory responsibility for athletes outside of approved FBC programs or activities.
- FBC staff, including coaches and related personnel, shall not engage in any form of sexual relationship with an athlete.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN

Freestyle BC is here to support you. Please contact a person within the organization you trust. This person of trust should then contact senior staff for next steps. Safe Sport is all of our concern and we can all do our part.

All FBC staff, including coaches and related personnel shall report any suspected breach of this policy on a timely basis. Any member of the public, including but not limited to parents, athletes, club or organization representatives, or coaches are encouraged to also report any such alleged breach.

All reports of sexual maltreatment must be directed to the Canada Sport Help Line. Any other complaints of maltreatment may also be reported directly to the Help Line. It is available to provide you with advice, guidance, and resources on how to proceed/intervene appropriately in the circumstances.

Call: 1-888-83SPORT (77678)

Or go to: abuse-free-sport.ca/

REPORTING CRIMINAL MATTERS

All complaints alleging criminal behavior shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement and child welfare authorities in a timely manner. Everybody has a responsibility to report unlawful activity and/or abuse.

If a child is in immediate danger, call police (call 9-1-1 or your local police) to intervene and a child protection social worker should be contacted to determine whether the child is in need of protection.

If you think a child or youth under 19 years of age is being abused or neglected, you have the legal duty to report your concern to a child welfare worker. Phone **1 800 663-9122** at any time of the day or night.

More information for reporting child abuse in BC can be found on the Government of British Columbia's website: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/public-safety/protecting-children/reporting-child-abuse>



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FREESTYLE BC REPORTING

All aggregate data relating to the number of reports received by FBC and the nature of the complaints related to the forms of maltreatment outlined in the Code of Conduct will be submitted to ViaSport BC.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Where a matter arising under this policy is of a highly sensitive nature, FBC shall keep all matters under this policy confidential, except where disclosure is required by ViaSport BC, by law, or is in the best interest of the public.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional support services available to you to prevent and report maltreatment in sport can be found at [Safe Sport.coach.ca/Toolbox](https://SafeSport.coach.ca/Toolbox)