

SAFE SPORT

WHAT IS SAFE SPORT?

Safe Sport is a movement and training resources that gives coaches, athletes, and parents the tools to recognize maltreatment in sport and prevent or address it.

WHO DOES SAFE SPORT AFFECT?

Safe Sport looks after the safety of all participants of water polo inside and outside the pool during our activities.

It includes physical and verbal harassment, safe play, injury prevention, anti-doping, and any other safety related component.

AGM + PARENT MEETING

SAFE SPORT

FULL CONTACT “COMBAT” SPORT

*Water makes movements awkward, and sometimes unintentional contact happens. It's important to understand the difference between **acceptable**, **not acceptable**, and **accidental contact**.*

SAFE SPORT

FULL CONTACT "COMBAT" SPORT

ACCEPTABLE CONTACT

- ✓ No head, neck or private parts
- ✓ No intent to harm
- ✓ Used to gain positional advantage
- Contact like suit grabbing may be considered acceptable even if against the rules of water polo

NOT ACCEPTABLE CONTACT

- ✗ Head, neck or private parts
- ✗ Intent to harm
- Must be reported immediately and may result in sanctions.

ACCIDENTAL CONTACT

- ✗ Head, neck or private parts.
- ✓ No intent to harm
- Common at all levels and can be mistaken as intentional.
- Should still be reported.
- Players should acknowledge and apologize if they cause it.

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LIABILITY & INSURANCE

- *If an incident occur, Insurance will cover cost of Legal Fees and eventual Fine if*
- *Screening and training of identified members is done:*
 - *Criminal Check and screening form*
 - *Respect in Sport*

FILING A COMPLAINT

- *Contact our Safe Sport Manager: waterpolosaskatoon.safesport@gmail.com*
- *Report to ITP (link via website): Independent 3rd party will “triage” complaints*

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ANTI-DOPING

- *Concerns mostly National Team athletes who should ask their doctors to verify medicines they prescribe are not in the anti-doping list.*

SOCIAL MEDIA

- *This a very BIG concern of today*
- *Everybody must be careful on what they post: the Codes of Conduct and Ethics can apply on social media.*
- *Harassment on social media can be very hard to avoid, and when happening, it is very hard to stop, identify the harasser(s) and sanction them before harm occurs.*
- *Athletes/coaches/staff must set all Privacy controls to the maximum level of security.*
- *Even with privacy controls, everyone should keep in mind that what is posted online is not under their control anymore; online content can be stolen and shared to anybody.*

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HARASSMENT

- *The Code of Conduct is signed by ALL members and parents as well as the Code of Ethics:*
- *Reminder of important points:*
 - *Rule of two*
 - *Background screening*
 - *Ethics training for coaches and all participants (e.g., Respect in Sport Training)*
- *IDENTIFY harassment is key:*
 - *By coaches, other athletes AND parents*
 - *Parents should help identify if their kids have been harassed BUT also if have contributed to harassment.*
 - *Additional work ask to parents to prevent Bullies*
- *Duty to Report.*

INJURIES & PREVENTION

Early action: Seek therapy at the first sign of injury.

Prevention: Coaches use goalie helmets & age-appropriate training, but injuries can still happen.

Care: Coaches follow guidance from physios/doctors to adapt training safely.

Support: SMSCS contacts available; sports-specific doctors recommended.

Safe Play: Rules protect athletes; coaches & referees enforce them. Safety violations are addressed immediately.



INJURIES & PREVENTION

- *Goalie Helmets*
- *Cutting nails*
- *Age-appropriate skill and endurance*
- *Float belts until confident of child's abilities*
- *Coaches in pool with Semi-Comp*
- *WPS Concussion Protocol*
- *Water Polo Suits*
- *Coach correction/education and Three Strike Policy to address misbehaviour*

