

Overview: IOC Safe Sport Initiatives

The IOC continues to develop initiatives to raise awareness of the need for the Prevention of Harassment and Abuse in Sport and facilitate the implementation of safeguarding policies and procedures by sporting organisations, as well as implementing measures within its own jurisdiction.

Olympic Agenda 2020+5

Olympic Agenda 2020+5, approved in March of 2021, identifies five nearly universal trends where sport and the values of Olympism can play a key role in turning challenges into opportunities, and from these trends, 15 recommendations were put forward for 2025 as Olympic Agenda 2020+5.

Included is Recommendation 5 -

“Further strengthen safe sport and the protection of clean athletes” which includes: “Strengthen safe sport/safeguarding across the Olympic Movement to protect the physical and mental well-being of athletes” Through this powerful recommendation, the IOC has taken a significant position in placing the protection of athletes physical and mental well-being as a top priority across the entire Olympic movement and has re-committed to developing programmes and initiatives to ensure that every athlete can train and compete in a safe sporting environment.

Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance within the Olympic Movement (2022)

During the past decade the IOC has done a lot to strengthen the implementation of the principles of good governance, promoting integrity across different levels of the Olympic and sports movement. The IOC has urged the reinforcement of the ethical and basic principles of good governance which have evolved towards an increased level of requirements, specifically with regard to transparency and checks and balances. Hence, the current set of Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance (BUPGG) has been updated in the framework of Recommendation 14 of Olympic Agenda 2020+5 – “Strengthen the Olympic Movement through good governance” – with a view to adjusting them to the latest standards.

Safeguarding is specifically noted in Principle 3.10 which states: A zero-tolerance approach to breaches of safeguarding principles shall be adopted in all sports organisations at all levels. A safe sport strategy shall be established and published to protect individuals from any form of harassment, exploitation and abuse; measures shall be implemented to ensure an effective and appropriate response to any safeguarding concerns. A qualified, trained individual shall be designated within the organisation as a point of contact for any issue relating to safeguarding.

Sports organisations, as values-based organisations, have the double duty and responsibility to ensure that the principles of good governance are upheld in all their activities.

IOC Safe Sport Action Plan

In alignment with the Strategic Intents for 2030,

- The IOC to inspire and support to the Olympic Movement in fostering safe sport and athlete well-being worldwide.
- The IOC to ensure that the Olympic Games are at the forefront in the field of athlete safeguarding and well-being,

The IOC Safe Sport Action Plan, written following a consultation process with internal and external stakeholders, is aligned with the Athletes’ Rights and Responsibilities Declaration, and sets forth six objectives.

The first four objectives concern the IOC’s responsibility as the leader of the Olympic Movement:

1. To implement the International Safeguarding Officer in Sport Certificate
2. To support the implementation of safeguarding policies and procedures amongst all stakeholders

3. To encourage Olympic Movement constituents to establish a Safeguarding Officer position within their organisations and to fill such position with an officer certified through the International Safeguarding Officer in Sport Certificate
4. To support National Olympic Committees (NOCs) through Olympic Solidarity to deliver safeguarding education for their national stakeholders (athletes and entourage) through webinars, courses and international scholarships

Two additional objectives are directly related to the IOC's responsibility as the owner of the Olympic Games:

5. To ensure that considerations for the safeguarding of athletes are included at every stage of the lifecycle of the Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games
6. To promote the values of safe sport amongst athletes and their entourage at the Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games

IOC Prevention of Harassment and Abuse in Sport initiatives include:

The IOC Framework for safeguarding athletes and other participants from harassment and abuse in sport (Games-time period)

- In place at all editions of the Olympic Games, the Framework establishes the reporting mechanisms and case management procedure for any incidents of harassment and abuse during the Games. Crucial to the Games-time Framework is the presence of the IOC Safeguarding Officer, and educational materials for athletes and entourage members.

The Games-time Framework is also available in: [French](#) and [Spanish](#)

[IOC consensus statement: interpersonal violence and safeguarding in sport \(2024\)](#)

- These Consensus Statements were compiled by experts in the field, and comprehensively detail the IOC position regarding interpersonal violence and safeguarding in sport. *(English only)*

IOC Guidelines for International Federations (IFs) and National Olympic Committees (NOCs) related to creating and implementing a policy to safeguard athletes from harassment and abuse in sport

- Approved by the IOC Executive Board in July 2016, these Guidelines detail the minimum requirements for athlete safeguarding policies and procedures. *(English only)*

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The IOC Toolkit for IFs and NOCs related to creating and implementing policies and procedures to safeguard athletes from harassment and abuse in sport.

- This toolkit aims to assist IFs and NOCs in the development and implementation of policies and procedures to safeguard athletes from harassment and abuse in sport. Developed in collaboration with 50 stakeholders from inside and outside of the Olympic Movement, the Toolkit is endorsed by The Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC), The Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF), and The Association of International Olympic Winter Sports Federations (AIOWF). In recognition that organisational, cultural and logistical differences occur between sports organisations, the IOC Toolkit offers a multi-tiered solutions-based approach to the core components of athlete safeguarding.
- The toolkit is also available in [French](#) and [Spanish](#)

IOC Safeguarding Educational Materials

The IOC educational tools seen below have been developed related to athlete safeguarding. These tools are free to take and to share.

Safeguarding Essentials for Youth Athletes

(This course is available in 10 languages - English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Italian and Arabic)

Created as part of the Winter Youth Olympic Games Gangwon 2024 Readiness Programme for Young Athletes

Uses real life scenarios to focus on:

- An introduction to athlete's rights and responsibilities
- Understanding different forms of harassment and abuse
- How to seek help

Participants must first register on Athletes365 for access to this course

<https://olympics.com/athlete365/learning/winter-youth-olympic-games-gangwon-2024-readiness-programme-for-young-athletes>

Safeguarding Essentials for Athlete Allies

(This course is available in 10 languages - English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Italian and Arabic)

Created as part of the Winter Youth Olympic Games Gangwon 2024 Readiness Programme for Athlete Entourage Members

This course focuses on:

- The significant role that the athletes' entourage plays in ensuring a safe sport environment
- The importance of safeguarding
- How to identify signs of abuse
- Appropriate actions to be taken if abuse is witnessed or suspected
- How to promote physical and mental well-being among athletes

Participants must first register on Athletes365 for access to this course

<https://olympics.com/athlete365/learning/winter-olympic-games-gangwon-2024-readiness-programme-for-athletes-entourage-members>

Safeguarding Athletes from Harassment and Abuse

(This course is presented in English)

Participants must first register on Athletes365 for access to this course

- For athletes & entourage members
- Led by experts & athletes
- Features a review of each section and a final quiz
- Certification of completion available

This course takes approximately 45-55 minutes to complete

<https://olympics.com/athlete365/courses/safeguarding/>

Consent in Sport

(Video in English with subtitles available in French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic & Chinese)

- For athletes & their entourage
- Appropriate for youth athletes
- Includes a short, animated video and informational web page

Sport should be a safe environment for everyone and talking about consent is just one part of our work to help prevent harassment and abuse in sport.

[Safe Sport](#) – consent video

IOC Sexual Harassment & Abuse Video Series

(Videos are in English. Subtitles available in French, Spanish, Russian and Chinese)

- For athletes, coaches & sports organisations
- 9 interactive videos featuring first person experiences of harassment and abuse in sport
- Highlights different forms of harassment and abuse

Each video is between 3m30s and 5m / total run time approx. 40 minutes

<https://olympics.com/athlete365/articles/safesport/sexual-harassment-and-abuse-in-sport>

Draw the Line

(Available in English, French, Spanish, and Russian)

- Oriented toward younger athletes
- Interactive scenario-based learning
- Focuses on different forms of harassment and abuse
- Certificate available upon completion

This course takes approximately 5-10 minutes to complete

<https://drawtheline.olympics.com/#eyJ1c2VyX2lkljoia3BxVVdRMjRXR2VZVDU4WCJ9>

Healthy Body Image

(Videos are in English with subtitles available in French, German, Spanish, Russian, & Chinese)

- For athletes, parents & coaches
- Video series (4 individual videos)
- Focus on healthy eating & exercise habits

Each video runs between 3 and 4 minutes

<https://olympics.com/ioc/healthy-body-image>

Safe Sport Entourage Fact Sheets

The IOC has developed these entourage specific factsheets to highlight some of the key roles and responsibilities of the following entourage groups in championing a Safe Sporting environment - one that is fair, equitable and free from all forms of non-accidental violence. The Safe Sport Entourage Factsheet webpage can be found at <https://olympics.com/athlete365/articles/entourage-health/safe-sport-entourage-factsheet-well-being>

To download individual factsheets, please click on a title below:

[Performance](#)

For "on the field" coaches, sports scientists, trainers, etc.

[Sports Organisations](#)

For NOCs, IFs and NFs

[Health & Well-being](#)

For doctors, physios, counsellors, and other health professionals

[Family & Friends](#)

For parents, partners, friends, and siblings

[Legal & Commercial](#)

For lawyers, agents, and sponsors

Webinar Series'

IOC Safeguarding Webinar Series for International Federations (2019)

This series, consisting of 10 two-hour webinars, was open to all International Federations of sports on the Summer and Winter Olympic programmes, and was presented between September and November 2019. Each session, led by some of the world's leading experts in the field of child protection and athlete safeguarding, focuses on the common challenges faced by sports organisations looking to build policy and implement athlete safeguarding measures.

<https://olympics.com/ioc/safe-sport/ioc-athlete-safeguarding-webinar-series-for-international-federations>

IOC Safe Sport Webinar Series for NOCs (2020/2021)

This 9-part series was created to assist National Olympic Committees by raising awareness of the important topic of athlete safeguarding and facilitating the implementation of Safe Sport initiatives by bringing together experts from across the sporting spectrum to deliver informative, interactive, and regionally relevant online sessions.

<https://olympics.com/athlete365/articles/integrity/safe-sport-webinar-series-to-help-national-olympic-committees-protect-athletes>

The IOC safeguarding materials can be found on both [Athlete365](#) and [Olympics.com](#)

The IOC Certificate: Safeguarding Officer in Sport

This first of its kind, international safeguarding officer certificate programme was launched on 1 September 2021

Divided into 7 modules consisting of lectures and assessments plus mandatory and recommended readings, this international safeguarding certificate course has been developed for those who have or will be appointed as safeguarding officers or work in the field of sport integrity for national or international sports organisations - particularly National Olympic Committees (NOCs), International Federations (IFs) and National Federations (NFs).

The certificate course,

- addresses what constitutes harassment and abuse in sport, how and why it occurs, and its impact on athletes, their families and others in the athlete's entourage and management
- introduces participants to their role in the prevention of and response to non-accidental violence in sport, including contributions to the prioritisation of athlete well-being and safeguarding both within their organisation and at major sporting events
- covers policies, procedures, systems and structures which need to be put in place in order to respond to reported concerns about athlete safeguarding and protection following an athlete-centred approach, and how these connect with the roles and responsibilities of statutory agencies

Following two assessments and a final exam, successful students will graduate with an IOC Certificate.

More information can be found at [IOC Certificate: Safeguarding Officer in Sport - sportsoracle](#)