

# SAFE SPORT

## Summary Sheet of Ringette Canada's Safe Sport Policies

### What is Safe Sport?

SAFE SPORT can be understood as:  
Physical and emotional safety, which includes concussion and injury prevention, and environments free from bullying, abuse, harassment, discrimination, and other forms of maltreatment.

### Why is Safe Sport important?

We all deserve to participate in sport environments that are accessible, inclusive, safe, and free from all forms of maltreatment by others.  
In order to reach this goal, Ringette Canada has policies to ensure safe environments.  
All participants play a role in ensuring safe sport.

### How do we ensure Safe Sport?

Ringette Canada's Safe Sport Policies are key to ensuring safe sport. They set rules, procedures, and standards for behaviour to help maintain a safe sport environment.

Everyone who participates within Canada's national sport system including administrators, athletes, coaches and officials must follow the [Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport \(UCCMS\)](#), which prohibits all forms of maltreatment.

The Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC) administers the UCCMS. OSIC serves several functions, including: receiving complaints, conducting assessments, investigating, maintaining a database of sanctions, and monitoring organizations for compliance.

### What Safe Sport policies are included?

#### Statement on Safe Sport

- Sets out Ringette Canada's commitments. All the other safe sport policies flow from this.

#### Code of Conduct and Ethics

- Sets the rules around behaviour that all participants must follow in accordance with the UCCMS
- Defines key terms and behaviours including consent, maltreatment, power imbalance, etc

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### Policies cont.

#### Athlete Protection Policy

- Sets expectations of behaviour for Persons in Authority including coaches.
- Identifies protections for athletes, especially when it comes to practices, training, traveling, communicating, and using physical contact.
- Explains the Rule of 2.

#### Social and Electronic Communications Media Policy

- Sets out suggested best practices for Participants when using social media and communicating with one another through social media and other electronic communication methods.
- Aim is to ensure safe and appropriate communication, especially when communicating with athletes and Vulnerable Participants.

#### Screening Policy

- Sets out the process for how all adult participants are screened.
- Provides a lot of forms, in the Appendices, to guide this screening process, including a Screening and Training Matrix that identifies all requirements.

#### Discipline and Complaints Policy

- Sets out: Who can bring a complaint and How, When, and Where to bring a complaint.
- Provides a structured process for how to address and resolve complaints.

#### Dispute Resolution Policy

- Provides an alternative, more informal way to resolve complaints (in appropriate cases) that allows the parties to compromise and maintain some control over how the complaint is resolved.

#### Appeal Policy

- Sets out the process for challenging the outcome of a complaint and/or certain decisions.

#### Reciprocation Policy

- Takes a holistic and unified approach to the disciplining of shared Participants by ensuring national enforcement and recognition of all disciplinary sanctions.
- This is done by Ringette Canada and its PSOs and Local Associations communicating disciplinary sanctions with one another.

#### Concussion Policy and Return to Play Protocol

- Sets rules around how to deal with head injuries and return to play safely.

#### Whistleblower Policy

- Provides a process and set of protections in situations where an employee of Ringette Canada needs to disclose certain information/concerns.

#### Risk Management Policy

- Sets a process for how Ringette Canada can assess and manage risk.

