

March 7, 2018

Dear race official,

As you may already know, US Sailing, as the national governing body for sailing recognized by the US Olympic Committee, has mandated Safe Sport training for many of our members. Federal law has established the US Center for SafeSport as the national organization responsible for developing policies and procedures to prevent abuse of amateur athletes. The purpose of this letter is to explain how the new requirements apply to you and how to access the training.

What is SafeSport?

SafeSport training is a free, 90-minute online course whose purpose is to protect sailors from emotional, physical and sexual abuse, as well as other types of misconduct. It helps raise awareness about misconduct in sport and provides training and resources for individual and organizational members, athletes, officials, coaches, parents, and volunteers. After completing the training, you will receive US Sailing SafeSport certification good for 24 months.

How Does US Sailing SafeSport Apply to You?

As certified race officials, we have frequent contact with athletes and the responsibility to ensure that they can compete in an environment free from abuse and misconduct. The US Sailing Board of Directors last month approved the [2018 Covered Individuals list](#), which defines who must take SafeSport Training. *All certified race officials must complete SafeSport training in 2018.* Specifically:

- US Sailing race officials at a US Sailing Championship or other event for which US Sailing is the organizing authority *must have completed SafeSport training at the time of appointment to the event.*
- US Sailing race official candidates applying in 2018 for initial race official certification *must have completed SafeSport training upon application.*
- All race officials who are renewing their certifications in 2018 *must complete SafeSport training prior to renewal.*
- Any US Sailing race official whose certification is current in 2018 *must complete SafeSport training before December 31, 2018.*

How to Take SafeSport Training

Please refer to the attached “SafeSport Training – How To Guide” for detailed instructions for registering and taking the training, which can be taken in one sitting or in parts. Before you begin, please have your [US Sailing member number](#) handy (not your password), then follow these steps:

1. Navigate to the [US Sailing SafeSport](#) web page.
2. Click on the blue “Take the Training” button. This will lead you through registration. After you have registered, sign in and take the training.
3. For now, we suggest that you print a certificate after completing the entire course (all three parts). You may need this when applying for initial or renewal certification.



www.ussailing.org

Reporting SafeSport Training to US Sailing

US Sailing is working with the US Center for SafeSport to automate reporting of your completed training to the US Sailing data base. We expect this to be completed by the end of 2018, and likely much sooner. Until that time, we ask that you download your certificate of completion (File: Print > PDF) and save it on your computer so you can provide it with your application for certification if needed.

Refresher Course

Your certification is good for 24 months. SafeSport anticipates rolling out an abbreviated refresher course in June of 2018. Anyone who has already been SafeSport trained may take the refresher, which will also be good for 24 months. US Sailing is also developing an automated renewal reminder system.

Additional Resources:

- [US Sailing SafeSport Handbook](#)
- [2018 Covered Individuals list](#), approved by the US Sailing Board of Directors February 26, 2018
- Senate bill [S. 534](#) was signed into law February 14, 2018, as Public Law No. 115-126 and became effective immediately. The law amends the Amateur Sports Act of 1978 (the "Ted Stevens Act") and designates the US Center for SafeSport as the national safe sport center and establishes requirements for training and reporting alleged abuse of minors to law enforcement.

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