



Policy Name: Background Screen Policy

Date of Issuance: Updated 11/16/2020

Applies to: BOD, USA Shooting Staff, and Others

USA Shooting is committed to the safety of athletes and participants involved in sport. USA Shooting requires background screens in order to (a) foster a safe environment at USA Shooting sanctioned events, as well as Olympic Training Centers and Training Sites; (b) create a safe living, training, and competition environment for athletes and other individuals associated with USA Shooting; and (c) protect persons at risk, including, but not limited to, minors and vulnerable adults.

This policy sets forth the standards that USA Shooting has incorporated into its Background Screen Policy and outlines the guidelines for the use of background screens for USA Shooting sanctioned events, at USA Olympic and Paralympic Training Facilities.

NOTE: Due to reporting and other limitations, information from a background screen should not be relied upon as the sole basis for selection, but rather, as an important indicator in the overall selection process.

**Policy Statement:**

**1) Application:**

This policy applies to:

- a) Individuals with authority over USA Shooting athletes including all USA Shooting employees, National / Certified Training Center coaches, USAS contractors, volunteers, board members, committee and task force members, individuals placed with USA Shooting as part of an academic program (including, but not limited to, interns, externs, fellows and clinical students) and other individuals authorized or credentialed by USA Shooting who have regular contact with and/or one-on-one interactions with minor athletes.
- b) All athletes and alternates, training partners, and guides 18 years of age or older that are selected to participate in the USA Shooting sanctioned events on USA Olympic and Paralympic training sites who have regular contact with and/or one on one contact with minor athletes.
- c) Other individuals as determined by USA Shooting who have regular contact with athletes as determined by USA Shooting, in its sole discretion.

**2) Background Screen Search Components:**

Background screen search components coincide with the components required by the USOPC Background Screening Policy.

### **3) Timeframe:**

Full background screen will be completed prior to the commencement of a new role or competition for all applicable individuals.

### **4) USA Shooting Certified Training Facilities**

Each USA Shooting Certified Training Facility shall require criminal background screen for those individuals it formally authorizes, approves or appoints (a) to serve in a position of authority over athletes, or (b) to have regular contact with athletes. Upon request by USA Shooting, the Certified Training Facility must provide certifications to establish that the mandated background screens were conducted in accordance with the USOPC Background Screening Policy.

### **5) Media**

Individuals affiliated with the media, who are authorized or credentialed by USA Shooting to access a Training Facility or attend a USA Shooting sanctioned event and may have unsupervised one-on-one interactions with athletes, will be required to undergo a criminal background screen.

### **6) Contractors/Vendors**

Contracts with contractors and vendors that are (a) in a position of authority over or (b) in regular contact with athletes must include the background screen requirements set forth in this policy. The contracts shall also specify that certification must be provided by the contractor upon request by USA Shooting, to establish that the mandated background screens were conducted in accordance with USA Shooting's policy.

### **7) Partner Programs**

When partnering with community organizations for events, USA Shooting shall ensure that the partnership agreements include language regarding background screen requirements when applicable. The agreements shall also specify that certification must be provided by the community organization upon request by the USOPC, to establish that the mandated background screens were conducted in accordance with USA Shooting's policy.

### **8) Background Screen Report Review**

All flagged background screen reports shall be reviewed by USA Shooting and the USOPC and are subject to USA Shooting's and the USOPC's policies and procedures to determine if and to what degree the individual will be: (a) affiliated with USA Shooting, (b) granted access to a USA Shooting Training Facilities, or (c) permitted to participate in a USA Shooting sanctioned event.

### **9) Periodic Compliance SafeSport/Background Tracking**

USA Shooting has a responsibility to maintain a safe environment for all our members, staff, athletes and other personnel. To do so, USA Shooting regularly tracks both SafeSport certifications and background screens.

Tracking of SafeSport compliance and Background screen are completed by our designated staff who checks the compliance on all staff, coaches, and National team athletes and other covered individuals. Background screens are processed by the National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI). To track the compliance of our constituents, we rely on our membership management database to track valid SafeSport training and Background screens.

**10) Resources and Contacts:**

USA Shooting Main Office  
(719) 866-4670  
[Membership@usashooting.org](mailto:Membership@usashooting.org)

USOPC Office of Athlete Safety  
(719) 866-3869  
[athlete.safety@usopc.org](mailto:athlete.safety@usopc.org)

U.S. Center for SafeSport  
(720) 531-0344  
[training@safesport.org](mailto:training@safesport.org)