

# DRAFT

## VADA SAFE SPORT POLICY IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES 4/8/25

Present on the call were Rachel Rice (VN), Hannah Bowers (Fredericksburg), Robyn Nunally (SVDA), Judy Altizer (SWVDA), Christina Arrington (Central), Tina Longaker (Charlottesville) and Sheli King, VADA President. Lisa Powers-Freeze, from ne was unable to join.

### **1. Part 1 of the Policy – Adoption of the MAAPP Protocol by VADA and the Chapters**

- a. VADA will examine how to incorporate this protocol into our standing rules so we don't need to try and pass an amendment to our Bylaws. Tina will talk to Sherri Booye for guidance on how we can accomplish this. The MAAPP flyer is on the VADA website, but we need to include a link to the USEF Safe Sport site and also include a clear statement in a prominent location on the website that the VADA and all of our chapters have adopted the MAAPP Protocol as club rules.
- b. We are going to prepare an article on the MAAPP Protocol (including the fact that it has been adopted by VADA and the chapters as club rules) in an upcoming VADA Newsletter. Hannah has agreed to work on the initial draft of the article and the rest of the group will then review it before it is finalized .
- c. We should also include a reminder that MAAPP Protocols are now also club and chapter rules in each of our newsletters.
- d. VADA Chapters should utilize a similar approach to publicize their adoption of MAAPP as club rules.
- e. Signs summarizing the MAAPP Protocols should be posted at every VADA and Chapter event.

### **2. Part 2 of the Policy, Safe Sport training for those in identified positions at club events**

- a. Our policy is that any club member who could reasonably be expected to come into contact with a minor in connection with a club activity needs to take and be current in Safe Sport Training. VADA will reimburse any individual who is not a current USEF active member the cost of a subscriber membership so that they can get access to such training.
- b. We had a productive discussion about categories of individuals likely to fall under this definition (e.g., show secretaries, managers, stable managers, volunteer coordinators, camp or clinic organizers) and those who probably would not (a Board member solely because they are on the Board or a ring steward.)
- c. I spoke to Jessie Ginsburg, VADA Treasurer about how best to handle the reimbursement piece and it was her recommendation that the clubs provide immediate reimbursement upon submission of proof that an identified individual (who is not a USEF competing member) has completed the SS Training. Then at

the end of each year, each club sends Jessie a list of all of their members that have been reimbursed and Jessie sends out a single check a year to each chapter reimbursing them the cost of each club members subscribing membership.

3. We decided it would be useful to develop a set of FAQs on both policies and their implementation by VADA and the Chapters.
4. We also thought that it would be helpful if each chapter posted the MAAPP Policy on their website in conjunction with each club activity and highlighted the need to get a waiver from a parent or guardian if for example a minor would be traveling to a show with their coach without another adult present. The suggestion was to include the policy and then a statement to the effect, "Please contact the \_\_\_\_\_ (show secretary, event organizer, etc.) if you have any questions about these policies or think you might need to complete a waiver in order for your minor child to be able to participate in this activity in compliance with MAAPP requirements."
5. While not discussed on the call, it is my recommendation that in addition to submitting an annual reimbursement request, at the end of the year each club also sends the VADA Secretary a list of every chapter member who was identified as requiring SS Training, the position they held and the date the training was completed.