



## BOARD POLICY

**Policy Section:** Board of Directors  
**Policy Subsection:** Sport Development  
**Policy Title:** Safe Sporting Environment

### Policy Statement

Swimming Canada provides a fun, healthy, inclusive and safe environment. Swimming enriches the lives of everyone involved by ensuring that the training and competitive environment is one where athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers know they are safe, and are treated with respect and dignity.

### Purpose Statement

Swimming Canada believes that everyone in the sport has the right to enjoy the sport at whatever level or position they participate. Athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers have the right to participate in a safe and inclusive training and competitive environment that is free of abuse, harassment or discrimination.

Swimming Canada believes the welfare of everyone involved in the sport is a foremost consideration and in particular the protection of children/athletes in the sport is the responsibility of each individual, member and special interest group in the swimming community.

### Application

Working in conjunction with International, National and Provincial Sections & Partner Organizations, Swimming Canada researches and defines standards and procedures, based on best practices, that ensures athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers are participating in safe and inclusive sport that is open, observable and transparent.

The framework for Safe Sport Environment focusses on the role, responsibility and practices of everyone involved in Swimming to ensure the safety of and development of swimmers.

All Swimming Canada education and certification programs, directed at officiating, coaching, parents and club development, will be consistent with and support the Safe Sport Environment strategy. Swimming Canada will ensure that “teaching moments” that address Safe Sport are included in every Swimming Canada driven consultation process and interaction.

Swimming Canada recognizes the critical role of the clubs, regions and Provincial Sections in the delivery of Safe Sport Environment program initiatives.

### Responsibilities

<b>Body</b>	<b>Action</b>
Board - Sport Development Committee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Ensure that all policies of the Board related to Safe Sport are consistent with the long-term athlete development strategy</li><li>2. Evaluate the progress of the goals/programs in Safe Sport.</li></ol>
CEO	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Delegates resources to the development of standards, operational policies and practices for Safe Sport to an appropriate Operational structure;</li></ol>



2. Communicates a strong position concerning the role and effective implementation of standards and practices in Safe Sport;
3. Develops an evaluation system that regularly monitors the effectiveness of initiatives in Safe Sport;
4. Develops and continually evolves the overall communication and consultation strategy to lead change among the clubs, Provincial Section Members and Swimming Canada concerning the Safe Sport.

## Limitations

TBD

## Resources

- o Discrimination : <http://swimming.ca/en/harassment-policy-and-procedure/>
- o Sexual abuse: <http://swimming.ca/en/harassment-policy-and-procedure/>
- o Physical abuse: <http://swimming.ca/en/harassment-policy-and-procedure/>
- o Personal harassment: <http://swimming.ca/en/harassment-policy-and-procedure/>
- o Bullying: <http://swimming.ca/en/harassment-policy-and-procedure/>
- o Transgender: Swimming Canada, COC Policy definition and application

## Approval

Approval: **September 29, 2016**