SafeSport | US Sailing

Travel Guidelines

Local Travel
Local travel involving one-on-one situations between an athlete and an unrelated adult is a high-risk situation. The goal of these guidelines is to prevent athletes from routinely spending time alone with unrelated adults.

Tips to consider

#1 - Plan an early team social event so that families from the same neighborhood can meet one another and discuss travel arrangements

#2 - Create team directories, neighborhood maps and sign-up sheets to help parents arrange their own carpools.

#3 - Provide the coach with parents’ cell numbers as well as a list of back up contacts for alternate transportation for each athlete in the event that practice ends early.

#4 - Notify parents and athletes of schedule changes as soon as possible so that they can arrange alternative transportation if needed.

#5 - Ask parents to notify the organization when their transportation plan changes, such as when a child rides home with a different teammate.

Travel for Younger or Less Experienced Athletes
Misconduct often consists of a series of actions that extend beyond normally accepted behavior. Inexperienced athletes are at risk because they aren’t aware of the boundaries and look to a coach or other adult for guidance. Sport clubs can reduce the risk of misconduct by preparing athletes for overnight travel and involving parents in monitoring and prevention.

Tips to consider

#1 - Communicate the rules of travel (such as traveling in groups and multiple chaperones) to athletes.
#2  - Identify first-time travelers so that chaperones can offer additional monitoring and support to these athletes.

#3  - Pair first-time travelers with more experienced athletes of a similar age.

#4  - Provide a full itinerary to families as soon as possible so that the athlete can become familiar with the schedule.

#5  - Assign rooming/travel groups before travel.

#6  - Where practical, consider scheduling an early season competition trip that is close enough for families to drive so that they can become familiar with the routines of competitive travel.

“As adapted from the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee”