**ORGANIZATION NAME**

**SAFE SPORT ACT COMPLIANCE POLICIES**

**Date approved:­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

The purpose of this Safe Sport Act Compliance Policy (“Safe Sport Compliance Policy”) is to serve as a guide to compliance with the federal law entitled the “Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017” (“Safe Sport Act”), which was enacted by Congress and became federal law on February 14, 2018.

In 2017, the United States Olympic Committee delegated to the United States Center for SafeSport (“SafeSport Center”) authority to respond to reports of sexual misconduct within the United States Olympic and Paralympic Movements. The Safe Sport Act codifies that the SafeSport Center has exclusive authority over National Governing Bodies of Sport (“NGBS”) to investigate and take action in response to allegations of sexual abuse.

The **(ORGANIZATION NAME)** is committed to compliance with the Safe Sport Act. To that end, we hereby adopt the following policies:

**Mandatory Abuse Reporting.** Any adult interacting with youth athletes participating inmrunning programs or any events hosted or operated by (ADD YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME), has a duty to report a reasonable suspicion of sexual misconduct, such as child sex abuse, non-consensual sexual conduct, sexual harassment or intimate relationships involving an imbalance of power within a 24- hour period to local law enforcement. (PROVIDE SPECIFIC CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TASKED WITH ABUSE REPORTING INTAKE). EVERY adult that staffs or volunteers to organize, assist with, or manage any element of a program or event where youth participate is a mandatory reporter and subject to this policy.

**Mandatory Abuse Awareness Training.** All members of the (ADD YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME) Board of Directors, Staff, and Volunteers must complete the RRCA’s Abuse Awareness Training Program or provide proof of US Safe Sport Training Certification.

**Right to Bar Registered Sex Offenders from Participation in Programs, Leadership, or Events**. The (ADD YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME) bars all board members, staff members, consultants, and volunteers that it may find to be on the Sex Offender Registry from serving in the (ADD YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME). Anyone found to be on the Sex Offender Registry will immediately have their relationship or employment status terminated with the (ADD YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME).

**Prohibition against One-on-One Contact with Youth Athletes.** No (ADD YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME) adult volunteers or staff are permitted to be alone and otherwise unsupervised with a child who is not their own child during an (ADD YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME) program or other event involving youth.

**For purposes of this Safe Sport Compliance Policy, the following definitions shall apply:**

1. Youth Athlete. The term “youth athlete” shall mean a child or minor under the age of 18 who participates in a race, youth running programs, or any other event hosted or operated by the (ADD YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME).
2. Sexual Misconduct. The term “sexual misconduct” shall include, but not be limited to, child sex abuse, non-consensual sexual conduct, sexual harassment or intimate relationships involving an imbalance of power.
3. Local Law Enforcement Authorities. The term “local law enforcement authorities” shall include, but not be limited to the following law enforcement agencies:
4. Sexual Grooming. The term “sexual grooming” shall mean a method used by offenders that involves building trust with a child and the adults around a child in an effort to gain access to and time alone with the child. In extreme cases, offenders may use threats and physical force to sexually assault or abuse a child. However, sexual grooming more commonly involves subtle approaches designed to build relationships with families. The offender may assume a caring role, befriend the child or even exploit the offender’s position of trust and authority to groom the child and/or the child’s family. These individuals intentionally build relationships with the adults around a child or seek out a child who is less supervised by adults in her/his life. This increases the likelihood that the offender’s time with the child is welcomed and encouraged.

Aspects of sexual grooming may include:

* targeting the victim;
* securing access to and isolating the victim;
* gaining the victim’s trust; and
* controlling and concealing the relationship.