NOW IS THE TIME TO CREATE A SAFER SOCCER ECOSYSTEM

WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO STANDARDIZE AND ELEVATE SAFEGUARDING MEASURES TO BETTER PROTECT MILLIONS OF PARTICIPANTS ACROSS OUR COUNTRY

STRENGTH BEHIND THE CREST

27 National Teams
11M Playing organized soccer
735K Coaches & referees
113 Member organizations
OUR VISION FOR SAFE SOCCER
DIGITAL PASS WILL BRING THIS PROGRAM TO THE PITCH, KEEPING SAFETY AT THE FOREFRONT OF OUR MINDS
SAFE SOCCER WILL REVOLUTIONIZE SAFETY IN OUR SPORT
TRANSFORMS APPROACH FROM RED-LIGHTING BAD ACTORS TO GREEN-LIGHTING PARTICIPANTS BEFORE STEPPING ON THE FIELD

WHAT THE PROGRAM IS

• Participation eligibility program that creates a continuous vetting process for those in the sport
• Centralized sign-up and clearance process that takes 2-4 hours to complete annually
• Public database where status of any participant can be searched, including any reported misconduct
• Available to all participants including coaches, referees, team staff, parents, Board Members, etc.

HOW TO BECOME SAFE SOCCER

• Participant signs-up through U.S. Soccer’s website, creating a Safe Soccer Clearance profile
• User completes education modules and applicable background screening requirements
• User is granted a digital pass and their status is updated in central database
• Each year, Safe Soccer Clearance is renewed by refreshing education requirements
The benefit of centralizing the Safe Soccer Program is that U.S. Soccer can leverage its scale and reach to teach everyone about safety.

- **Single database to allow members to see the status of those participating**
- **Allows members & U.S. Soccer to work together to keep bad actors out of the game**
- **Draws players to the sport as it can be identified as being safe**
- **Follows participants, preventing a bad actor from moving from one member to another**
- **National minimum standard for clearance, reducing duplicative costs and effort to train participants**
SAFE SOCCER CLEARANCE PHASING SYSTEM

OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IS TO ENSURE BROAD SAFE SOCCER CLEARANCE ADOPTION, MEMBERS SET THEIR OWN STANDARDS FOR THEIR PARTICIPANTS

**Phase #1**
FREE

- Updated contact / personal information
- Self-disclosure statements on criminal or harassment allegations
- Attest to U.S. Soccer Code of Conduct
- SafeSport core training
- Introduction to Safe and Healthy Playing Environments medical module

2 hours to complete

**Phase #2**
FREE

- Positive Soccer Environments module
- DEIB module

3 hours to complete

**Clearance**
Cost of background check - $23

- USDPC level background check through U.S. Soccer

3.5 hours to complete
SAFE SOCCER PROGRAM PROVIDES STANDARDIZED EDUCATION
MODULES COVER A VARIETY OF SAFEGUARDING TOPICS WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER EDUCATION

SAFE SPORT CORE TRAINING
90-minutes

- Emotional, physical, and sexual abuse education
- Mandatory reporting responsibilities
- Preventing bullying and hazing

SAFE & HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS
30-minutes

- Recognizing and responding to emergency situations
- Information on concussions, cardiac arrest, mental health, and weather

POSITIVE SOCCER ENVIRONMENTS MODULE
30-minutes
In Partnership with

- Creating and supporting a positive soccer environment
- Benefits of positive coaching
- Tools to nurture a healthy team environment

DEIB EDUCATION MODULE
30-minutes

- Intro to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging
- Information on social perspective taking, bias, stereotypes, advocacy, and microaggressions
SAFE SOCCER WILL SIMPLIFY SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
WE’RE STRIVING TO DEVELOP AN EASY-TO-USE AND INTUITIVE PROGRAM FOR ALL USERS

SAFEGUARDING
Protecting the health and safety of our players, coaches, and families is everyone’s responsibility. Here you’ll find links to complete screenings and training as part of your journey with U.S. Soccer. If you encounter issues or have questions, please email us at learningcentersupport@ussoccer.org

<table>
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<tr>
<th>BACKGROUND SCREENING</th>
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<th>APPROVED BY U.S. SOCCER</th>
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<td>UP TO DATE PROFILE INFORMATION</td>
<td>Last updated on 10/02/2022</td>
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SEAMLESS INTERFACE
- Centralizes safeguarding elements in one place
- Connects to member registration platforms
- Provides quality customer support for users
- Allows easier compliance tracking with affiliated user dashboards
- Lowers background check cost due to economies of scale
A PROGRAM OF THIS SCALE TAKES TIME TO DEVELOP
WILL WORK WITH MEMBERSHIP TO DESIGN THE DETAILS AND REDUCE OPERATIONAL CONCERNS

WE’VE LAIRED OUT KEY NEST STEPS AND WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE UPDATES AND SEEK FEEDBACK

Create process for handling misconduct reports and how reports will affect Safe Soccer Clearance status

Develop online user interface and make compatible with member registration platforms

Publish roll-out timelines and discuss congruent USSF policy changes

Finish developing program’s educational content (e.g., Positive Soccer Environments module)

Launch program with USSF staff and pilot organizations, collect feedback for final improvements

Official launch of Safe Soccer Clearance program available to all participants
EVERY PLAYER DESERVES A SAFE AND HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENT.