

IOC YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES FRAMEWORK FOR SAFEGUARDING ATHLETES AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS FROM HARASSMENT AND ABUSE IN SPORT (HEREINAFTER THE “FRAMEWORK”)

1. PREAMBLE

This Framework, which has been developed for the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 (the “**Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018**”), has been established by the Athletes’, the Athletes’ Entourage, Medical and Scientific and Women in Sport Commissions of the International Olympic Committee (the “**IOC**”).

This Framework is established pursuant to Olympic Agenda 2020, Recommendation 18: Strengthen support to athletes, and the 2015 7th IOC International Athletes Forum, Recommendation 2d: Development of education materials on all issues of athlete welfare, including non-discrimination, prevention of Harassment and Abuse in sport.

This Framework is supported by Article 1.4 of the IOC Code of Ethics (2018 version) which states that “*Respect for the universal fundamental ethical principles is the foundation of Olympism*”, which include the “*respect for international conventions on protecting human rights insofar as they apply to the Olympic Games’ activities and which ensure in particular [...] rejection of all forms of harassment and abuse, be it physical, professional or sexual, and any physical or mental injuries.*”

2. OBJECTIVE

This Framework is intended to help safeguard Athletes and other Participants from Harassment and Abuse in sport during the Youth Olympic Games-Time Period.

3. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

3.1 This Framework applies:

- i. to all Participants in the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018;
- ii. specifically for the Youth Olympic Games-Time Period;
- iii. to alleged incidents of Harassment and Abuse.

3.2 For the purposes of this Framework:

- i. “**Athletes**” shall mean all individual competitors competing during the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018.
- ii. “**Participants**” shall mean all those listed under Rule 59.2 of the Olympic Charter, namely, Athletes and teams, officials, managers and other members of any delegation, referees and jury members and all other accredited persons.
- iii. The “**Youth Olympic Games-Time Period**” shall mean the time between the opening and closing of the Youth Olympic Village in Buenos Aires.
- iv. “**Child / adolescent**” or collectively “**Minor**” shall mean any Participant under the legal age of majority of the Argentine Republic (eighteen years of age) at the time of the Opening of the Youth Olympic Village.
- v. “**Harassment and Abuse**” as stated in Article 1.4 of the IOC Code of Ethics, includes psychological abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and neglect.
- vi. “**Psychological abuse**” means any unwelcome act including confinement, isolation, verbal assault, humiliation, intimidation, infantilisation, or any other treatment which may diminish the sense of identity, dignity, and self-worth.
- vii. “**Physical abuse**” means any deliberate and unwelcome act - such as for example punching, beating, kicking, biting and burning - that causes physical trauma or injury. Such act can also consist of forced or inappropriate physical activity (e.g., age-, or physique-inappropriate training loads; when injured or in pain), forced alcohol consumption, or forced doping practices.
- viii. “**Sexual abuse**” means any conduct of a sexual nature whether non-contact, contact, or penetrative, where consent is coerced/ manipulated or is not or cannot be given.
- ix. “**Sexual harassment**” means any unwanted and unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, whether verbal, non-verbal or physical. Sexual harassment can take the form of sexual abuse.

- x. **“Neglect”** means the failure of a coach or another person with a duty of care towards the Athlete to provide a minimum level of care to the Athlete, in respect of conduct or neglect which is causing harm, allowing harm to be caused, or creating an imminent danger of harm.
- xi. **“Safe Sport”** is defined as “an athletic environment which is respectful, equitable and free from all forms of non-accidental violence to athletes.”

3.3 Harassment and Abuse:

- i. may occur in combination or in isolation;
- ii. can include a one-off incident or a series of incidents;
- iii. may be in person or online or by another form of communication;
- iv. may result from an abuse of authority, meaning the improper use of a position of influence, power or authority by an individual against another person;
- v. can be based on one or more forms of discrimination including race, religion, colour, creed, ethnic origin, physical attributes, gender, sexual orientation, age disability, socio-economic status and athletic ability;
- vi. may be deliberate, unsolicited or coercive.

3.4 The above definitions should be applied in accordance with Argentine Law.

4. PREVENTIVE MEASURES

IOC educational materials and other information regarding Harassment and Abuse in sport will be available to Athletes and other Participants including their respective entourages prior to, during and after the Youth Olympic Games-Time Period. These will be provided through the Youth Olympic Games Learn and Share Programme, educational seminars, and information on the IOC’s Athlete 365 and YOG Athletes’ Hub websites explaining, in particular, what may constitute Harassment and Abuse, and where Athletes and other Participants and their respective entourages may seek further information, advice and support.

5. THE IOC SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

An IOC Safeguarding Officer, who will be present at the Youth Olympic Village throughout the Youth Olympic Games-Time Period, will be responsible for following up on all reported incidents of Harassment and Abuse. Specifically, the IOC Safeguarding Officer shall be responsible for:

- i. liaising with the Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee athlete psychologists, psychiatrist and medical team as required;
- ii. documenting all reports of Harassment and Abuse during the Youth Olympic Games-Time Period;
- iii. investigating all reports of Harassment and Abuse;
- iv. coordinating the submission of reports to the IOC Disciplinary Commission if required;
- v. ensuring notification of reports to local authorities, as appropriate and necessary pursuant to local law. [For clarity, the local authorities are responsible for determining whether to conduct a criminal investigation in relation to an alleged incident.]; and
- vi. providing support to any concerned persons.

6. REPORTING AND PROCEDURE FOR ADDRESSING INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT AND ABUSE

6.1 Reporting

6.1.1 Anyone may report an incident of Harassment and Abuse.

6.1.2 In the case of a report involving a Minor as the alleged perpetrator of Harassment and Abuse, the parents or legal guardian of such Minor as detailed in the “Conditions of Participation” form (Appendix 1) must be informed.

6.1.3 In the case of a report involving a Minor as the alleged victim or third-party witness of Harassment and Abuse, the parents or legal guardian of the Minor as detailed in the “Conditions of Participation” form (Appendix 1), should be informed, providing that doing so is not considered to represent a risk for such Minor’s safety or welfare.

- 6.1.4 In the case that informing the parents or legal guardian as per Section 6.1.3 is considered to represent a risk for the Minor's safety or welfare, another person attending the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 within the same delegation as the Minor in an official capacity, preferably in a medical or legal capacity, must be informed, providing that doing so is not considered to represent a risk for the Minor's safety or welfare.
- 6.1.5 Any Participant who witnesses or suspects an incident of Harassment and Abuse against a Minor during the Youth Olympic Games-Time Period must report such incident through the reporting channels detailed in Section 6.1.6.
- 6.1.6 Reporting channels, through which any alleged incident of Harassment and Abuse may or must be reported, will be communicated through an information sheet regarding Harassment and Abuse in sport (the "Information Sheet"), on the IOC's Athlete 365 and YOG Athletes' Hub websites. Such reporting channels include, in particular:
- i. the IOC Safeguarding Office , located inside the Youth Olympic Village;
 - ii. the IOC Integrity and Compliance Hotline;
 - iii. the IOC staff working in the Safe Sport booth at the Athlete365 Space, located inside the Youth Olympic Village;
 - iv. Polyclinic staff;
 - v. the Safe Sport sections of the IOC's Athlete 365 and YOG Athletes' Hub websites, available at [www.https://www.olympic.org/athlete365/library/safe-sport/](https://www.olympic.org/athlete365/library/safe-sport/) and <https://www.olympic.org/athlete365/well-being/safe-sport-yog/> respectively; and
- 6.1.7 All reports through any reporting channel will be referred to the IOC Safeguarding Officer.
- 6.1.8 Reports of Harassment and Abuse may be made in writing or verbally. The IOC Safeguarding Officer shall ensure that such reports are documented. This documentation should include the name, title, address, contact information and signature of the reporting person. The documentation should also include information pertaining to the reasons and basis for the report, including any evidence which might suggest that Harassment and Abuse has occurred. Based on the particular facts as detailed in the reports, the IOC Safeguarding Officer will determine how to proceed with each case.

6.2 Procedure

- 6.2.1 If an alleged incident of harassment or abuse has occurred between persons belonging to the same International Federation ("IF") or National Olympic Committee ("NOC"), the incident shall be resolved by such IF or NOC, provided that it has an appropriate procedure for safeguarding Athletes/Participants, including for safeguarding of Minors, as relevant.
- 6.2.2 In all other cases, including in the event that an alleged incident of harassment or abuse has occurred between persons belonging to: (i) other organisations or different organisations, (ii) an IF or NOC, which has an appropriate procedure for safeguarding Athletes/Participants, but which does not, in the opinion of the IOC, safeguard such Athlete/Participant (e.g. by taking any disciplinary action) or (iii) an IF or an NOC, which does not have an appropriate procedure for safeguarding Athletes/Participants, the IOC shall take action within its own competence to safeguard the concerned Athlete/Participant, including taking any disciplinary action, if necessary.

7. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

Any alleged incident of Harassment and Abuse during the Youth Olympic Games-Time Period which may constitute a breach of Article 1.4 of the IOC Code of Ethics, may give rise to the IOC initiating disciplinary proceedings including forming an ad-hoc IOC Disciplinary Commission. The measures and sanctions which may be taken are further described in the Olympic Charter.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY

- 8.1 All matters pertaining to an alleged incident of Harassment and Abuse, in particular reports of Harassment and Abuse, personal and identifying information of the concerned persons, other information gathered during investigations and results of investigations (“**Confidential Information**”) shall be regarded as confidential and handled in accordance with applicable laws and the IOC Privacy Policy.
- 8.2 The IOC may disclose Confidential Information to appropriate persons or authorities (subject to applicable laws) if: (i) a failure to disclose such information may cause harm to someone, or (ii) such information relates to a potential criminal act that comes to the attention of the IOC.
- 8.3 Decisions pursuant to Section 7 shall, in principle, include Confidential Information and shall be publicly disclosed by the IOC. When disclosing such decisions, the IOC shall: (i) not include any personal information of the victim without obtaining the victim’s consent, and (ii) anonymise personal information of other concerned persons in certain cases, taking into consideration the privacy interests of such concerned persons.
- 8.4 Notwithstanding Section 8.3 above, Confidential Information related to Minors will not be publicly disclosed.