

# **WGI SPORT OF THE ARTS PARTICIPANT PROTECTION POLICIES**

## **1.0 POLICY STATEMENT**

At WGI, protection for all participants from all forms of abuse is central to our mission. We strive to create an environment where all participants of our community are aware of options for reporting about instances of suspected misconduct, how to seek assistance and support, and how to pursue action for their own protection and that of everyone in the WGI community.

In order to provide a trusted, respectful, and inclusive environment where the participants we serve and those who work within the organization feel safe, heard, equipped, and empowered to speak up for themselves and others and to take robust and visible action, as appropriate, to eradicate sexual exploitation and abuse, we are committed to the following core principles:

1. Ensure that participants are at the heart of everything we do when fighting abuse;
2. Equip and empower all within our organization to prevent, identify, and respond to misconduct;
3. Uphold organizational accountability in tackling misconduct.

## **2.0 PREVENTION AND AWARENESS TRAINING**

- Any group participating in WGI events must submit a complete list of adults in any instructional or administrative role having regular contact with or authority over participants no later than December 1 or within 45 days of beginning a new role subjecting the adult to this policy.
- All adult instructional and administrative staff of all Participating Groups who have regular contact with or authority over participants must complete abuse prevention training as prescribed by WGI. All adults subject to this policy must complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport's Core Center for SafeSport Training before regular contact with participants begins or within the first 45 days of beginning a new role subjecting the adult to this policy.
- All Participating Groups shall keep on file a certificate of completion of prescribed training courses for adults subject to this policy and provide this documentation to WGI upon demand or through regular and random audits.

## **3.0 NATIONAL CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS**

- WGI requires all Participating Groups to obtain a national criminal history background check (or some satisfactory equivalent for your country or locale) for all adult instructional and administrative staff who have regular contact with or authority over participants.
- Such background checks shall be performed at the direction of the Participating Group's director but in no event less than every two years.
- For Scholastic groups, this background check requirement can be fulfilled by existing policies of a school district or educational institution; however, if the school district or educational institution does not have policies for such background checks, the Participating Group must comply with this WGI requirement.
- All Participating Groups shall keep on file records of required national criminal background checks for adults subject to this policy and provide this documentation to WGI upon demand

or through regular and random audits.

#### **4.0 INTERNAL PARTICIPANT PROTECTION POLICIES FOR GROUPS**

- Participating Groups in any Independent Class are required to follow the Participant Abuse Protection Policies (PAPP) as outlined by WGI. These groups shall also maintain effective internal policies and procedures for the protection and safety of its participants, including without limitation the ability of any individual to report suspected misconduct to the leadership of the Participating Group without reprisal.
- Participating Groups in any Scholastic Class shall follow the policies and procedures for the protection and safety of its participants as prescribed by their school district or educational institution; however, if the school district or educational institution does not have established protection policies, the Participating Group must comply with WGI requirements for Independent groups.
- Participating Groups shall disseminate WGI's Participant Abuse Protection Policies (PAPP) to all its leaders, staff, and participants, and shall ensure that its leaders and staff adhere to these policies. This includes signed acknowledgement of receipt of these policies kept on file and published on any existing website of the group.

#### **5.0 COMPLIANCE GUIDELINES**

- In order to ensure that these Participant Abuse Protection Policies developed to protect participants as put forth by WGI are implemented, it is important that all Participating Groups understand these policies and incorporate them into practice.
- All Participating Groups shall keep on file certificates of completion of prescribed training courses and required national criminal background checks (or some other satisfactory equivalent for your country or locale) for any adult subject to this policy and provide documentation upon demand by WGI or through regular and random audits.
- For any Participating Group not in compliance with these policies, the privilege of participation in events may be limited, conditioned, suspended, terminated, or denied at any time. This action may be taken towards an individual or the entire group if it is inconsistent with these policies or in the best interest of our sport and those who participate in it.