



June 2, 2021

Dear Sandy and the USGCOA,

We appreciate the time and thought that USGCOA has put into these matters. We agree that our recent meeting was productive, and we welcome and encourage continued dialogue. USAG is committed to serving its members, and that very much includes coaches and club owners. They are an integral part of our sport and the success of our athletes.

Your email raises some specific issues that we want to address. First, you asked what requires USAG to post interim measures on non-sexual complaints. Posting restrictions on an adult's membership, especially restrictions on an adult member's ability to interact with minors, is best practice in athlete safety. It's also something that USA Gymnastics has done for years, and the Board is supportive of it. The publication process has been refined over time, consistent with best practices. Today, USAG publishes the names of individuals who are permanently ineligible for membership or whose membership is restricted (meaning a restriction that limits the individual's access to athletes, USAG Member Clubs, and USAG Members, up to and including a suspension from any contact.)

Consistent with USA Gymnastics' commitment to review and update its practices, and based on your feedback to us, we have recently updated the organization's website to clarify the nature of an interim measure. The updated page is here: [https://usagym.org/pages/aboutus/pages/restricted\\_persons.html](https://usagym.org/pages/aboutus/pages/restricted_persons.html). The updated language now includes the following statement: *"An interim measure is not a finding of misconduct under the USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy or the SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement and should not be interpreted as such. Interim measures are intended to ensure the safety and well-being of the gymnastics community; prevent conduct or participation detrimental to the sport or its reputation; prevent escalation of a reported Safe Sport violation; or limit/monitor the conduct of a Participant who is the subject of a Safe Sport violation report."* The title of the column listing the restriction is now called "Action Taken" instead of "Suspension Type/Interim Measure," in order to avoid confusion about non-suspension interim measures (e.g., a restriction of no unsupervised contact with minors). We remain committed to making further updates to the website as appropriate and always welcome feedback on how we can improve communication with the community.

Your email also expresses concern over how long cases and appeals are taking. For the cases that USA Gymnastics Safe Sport handles, we are working to improve the time it takes to resolve those cases. Within the past year, we have substantially reduced the average time to case closure and are now targeting to close all cases within 30-120 days depending on complexity. There are no longer any backlogged cases, and open cases have been reduced by nearly 70% over the past year. We will continue to work to make the process more efficient. We understand that everyone involved in Safe Sport matters wants a prompt and fair resolution, and we do too.

Regarding the Center's time to closure, we recognize the need for improvement on their end. Unfortunately, we do not have any control over the time it takes for the Center to close a case. The



Center is aware of our concerns regarding their time to closure, and we continue to provide this feedback to them. Li Li is currently a member of a leadership group made up of six National Governing Body leaders who are working closely with the Center to address the Center's deficiencies, including the time to closure.

Your email states that the USGCOA is hopeful that USA Gymnastics will better outline its procedures once a complaint is received. USA Gymnastics' Safe Sport Investigation and Resolution Procedures outline the steps involved with a Safe Sport report. If the USGCOA has questions or feedback on how we can better outline the information, we certainly welcome it.

Finally, your email asks USA Gymnastics to "internally make a decision to remove Kevin Mazeika off the Suspended list." As an initial matter, Mr. Mazeika was not suspended. Additionally, USA Gymnastics does not have the authority to modify his interim measure. The U.S. Center for SafeSport has jurisdiction over the matter involving Mr. Mazeika, and the Center implemented the current interim measure. As an NGB, USA Gymnastics is required to follow and implement the Center's interim measures. Any modification of Mr. Mazeika's interim measure must come from the Center.

We want to thank you and the USGCOA again for your time and input. We appreciate hearing from you all and want to let you know that we are open to continuing this conversation. Please feel free to let us know if you would like to discuss this or other matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauryn Turner".

Lauryn Turner  
Chief of Staff  
USA Gymnastics