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## Child Safeguarding in Sport

[www.coe.int/CSiS](http://www.coe.int/CSiS)

<b>Title of the practice</b>	<b>Austrian Safe Sport Standards</b>
<b>Country</b>	Austria
<b>Organisation(s) responsible</b>	100% SPORT
<b>Main topic addressed</b>	Standards and guidance for sport organisations in Austria
<b>Type of resource/practice</b>	<b>Strategy and policy frameworks</b>
<b>Target group(s)</b>	Stakeholders of sport organisations, Child Safeguarding Officers
<b>Timing</b>	Since 2021 (ongoing)
<b>Language</b>	German
<b>Brief description of the practice</b>	<p>The 100% SPORT Standards are guidelines and criteria intended to support sport organisations and stakeholders in implementing SAFE SPORT concepts and action plans.</p> <p>They reflect international requirements (including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child), relevant legislation and evidence-based good practice.</p> <p>100% SPORT recommends that those responsible for organised sport urgently ensure compliance with these criteria.</p>
<b>Context and objectives</b>	<p>In the past, good practices and guidelines for strategic action were brought to the attention of sport bodies and decision-makers. However, a comprehensive set of commonly agreed standards on how to make the vision of Safe Sport working was missing.</p> <p>Against the backdrop of the CSiS Project, the formulation of national minimum standards and criteria that ensure harm free and joyful sport participation for all has become a focal point in 100% SPORT's endeavour for safe sport.</p> <p>The main objectives of the Safe Standards publication are to underline international safe sport principles, create a shared commitment to commonly agreed standards and foster the implementation of informed strategic action.</p> <p>The goal is to require that sport organisations meet the standards in order to qualify for financial funding.</p> <p>The standards were introduced in 2021 and communicated to all national sport federations. The national sport funding body refers to the standards within its funding criteria and advises sport federations to establish a Safe Sport concept based on these standards in order to receive a better rating regarding the allocation of funds.</p>
<b>Steps/activities of the practice</b>	<p><b>The 100% SPORT Safe Sport Standards</b></p> <p><b>1. Risk Analysis:</b> The association carries out an analysis of sport-specific and sport-immanent risks at regular intervals and deals with all risks of its offer. The</p>

association identifies risks for children and adolescents that exist due to the offer, spatial situation, setting, management style, internal and external communication and personnel structure with the aim of defining measures within the child protection concept that minimises the risk for children and adolescents.

2. **Child Protection** guidelines, prevention and protection concept: The association has corresponding guidelines and concepts that are communicated in a clearly visible manner, made available to all members and employees and made easily accessible to partners.

3. **Participation:** Emphasis is placed on the participation of children and young people in the development of protection concepts. The association uses age-appropriate language to communicate messages about safety and well-being to children in sport. It engages young people on issues that affect them and ensures that all children understand who they can talk to about their concerns.

4. **Confidant and Multiplier:** The association has at least one trained confidant (or multiplier), who is available as a contact person for athletes, parents and coaches. The confidant attends ongoing training and is introduced in this role on the website, association media, mailings, etc. in a clear and visible manner.

5. **Partnerships:** The association co-operates with specialised agencies and ensures a regular exchange takes place (independent of occasion cases).

6. **System and Structure for the Processing of Concerns/Intervention Plan** (especially concerning children and adolescents): The association has a case management and reporting system which is developed based on standardised specifications according to the association's needs and circumstances. The following areas are regulated therein: Procedure in cases of criminal law relevance, peer violence, border violations, border violations without criminal law relevance and clear guidelines on how employees should deal with suspected cases.

7. **Counselling and Support:** The association provides internal and external support for the appointed confidants and multipliers and those affected who report an incident (e.g. support by sports psychologists and supervision). The support options are presented in a clear manner for all members, employees and persons involved in the association's work and are communicated on an ongoing basis.

8. **Mandatory Training:** Persons who work with children are checked for their suitability and training. Ongoing and continuing education will be required and reviewed by the association.

9. **Regular Continuing Education:** Staff members at all levels regularly attend training on the prevention of violence and child protection.

10. **Guidelines for Ethics and Behaviour:** The association requires volunteers and staff to sign codes of ethics and conduct guidelines.

11. **Application and Hiring Procedures:** For new hires and at least every four years (from now on), or as part of the licensing process, the association requires the submission of a clean enhanced criminal record "Child and Youth Leadership." For new hires, there is a standardised assessment including clarification of attitudes towards the topic of "closeness and distance".

12. **Monitoring, Evaluation and Regular Update of the Guideline:** The association has a plan for regular updates in place and monitors the developments in a structured way.

### **Involve Those Concerned**

**For Occasional Cases:** Offer concerned individuals a formal apology on behalf of your organisation to acknowledge the harm they have suffered and show respect to them for disclosing the situation. Facilitate a hearing (offer the closest setting/location possible) that allows those affected by sexual violence in sport to recount their experiences in a safe environment and address key stakeholders who are ready to listen and learn. Provide the resources and safe space that

	allow those concerned to participate in the development of the organisation's reporting system.
<b>Resources required</b>	Consultation for sport organisations who need support in the implementation process will require financial and human resources.
<b>Achievements and outcomes</b>	The standards were included in the funding criteria albeit they are not mandatory yet.
<b>Challenges and limitations</b>	Meeting, maintaining, and embedding the standards need guidance and support as well as controlling. The commitment and resources therefore are not yet received. Independence in the evaluation process of the standards is needed. An overarching national policy and action plan that would support the nationwide implementation of the standards is missing.
<b>Follow-up ideas and future plans</b>	The intersectoral work should be strengthened to ensure commitment and accountability of relevant stakeholders in sport and beyond.
<b>Further information</b>	<a href="http://www.safesport.at">www.safesport.at</a> <a href="https://100prozent-sport.at/service/100-sport-standards/">https://100prozent-sport.at/service/100-sport-standards/</a>