

	New Program Proposal	
	SafeSport Compliance INVEST Program <i>(Integrating New Volunteers: Educating and SafeSport Training)</i>	

December 17, 2018

Synopsis:	<p>Volunteers are a key part of track and field. In order to protect athletes, USATF South Carolina began actively exploring in October 2018 ways to provide SafeSport training and background checks for volunteers in the Association.</p> <p>At the 2018 USATF Annual meeting Nov 27 – Dec 02 in Columbus, OH, there was a huge emphasis on SafeSport, and will continue to be in the future, not just with Youth athletics but all athletics including Masters events. In accordance with 2018 federal legislation, USATF will require Volunteers to go through SafeSport training and undergo a background check in 2019. Though USATF is also developing a waiver process for those that volunteer on a limited basis, the details are not yet worked out.</p> <p>The USATF South Carolina Association desires to stay ahead of the issues by pioneering a program to fully include Volunteers by providing membership, SafeSport training, and a two-year background check.</p>
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Proposal Details:

The INVEST (Integrating New Volunteers: Educating and SafeSport Training) Program is created to provide SafeSport Training and a two-year background check to at least 100 volunteers. In order to do this, the volunteers will also need to be a USATF member.

The full cost of a USATF membership is \$30, with \$15 paid to National and \$15 paid to the Association. USATF South Carolina Association will pay the \$15 membership fee to USATF National, and will waive the \$15 USATF South Carolina membership fee for each of the volunteers.

A two year background check is \$18 per volunteer.

100 people x \$15 USATF membership fee = \$1,500
100 people x \$18 background check cost = \$1,800
TOTAL : \$3,300

It is generally parents of athletes that volunteer at track and field meets, and also with team training and travel. USATF South Carolina will have USATF Clubs host SafeSport nights¹. The

¹ It should be noted this program is not restricted to parents of club athletes.

intent is to have parents of athletes come together to watch and discuss the SafeSport videos. The Association will provide a stipend of \$100 to the clubs for beverages and snacks. Ten such SafeSport nights will cost the Association \$1,000 (10 x \$100/event).

There are several advantages in the INVEST program.

- Minimizes the need for USATF South Carolina Association to rely upon an unknown waiver process.
- Puts USATF South Carolina Association at the forefront of SafeSport compliance for volunteers and compliance with the *Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017*, which was signed into law February 14, 2018.
- Increases USATF South Carolina Association membership.
- Provides a pool of new members that may become active within the Association.
- Provides a pool of new members that may go on to become Officials for \$20.
- Provides a pool of new active members that may go on to become a coach.

There are a couple of realities, a couple of concessions:

- Not all of the volunteers will actually volunteer at events.
- Some of the volunteers will cease to volunteer when their children no longer compete.

Funding for the INVEST program shall be obtained by increasing by \$1 the daily admission fee to USATF Championship events for spectators from age 18 – 65.

This funding option is chosen because:

Associations can set the entry fee:

- This does not raise athlete event fees, fees that are set by National
- Spectators are funding the INVEST program.
- \$1 is a nominal fee, and when applied to entry fees will generate above the \$4,300 required to certify 100 volunteers and to host 10 SafeSport nights, possibly allowing for more than 100 volunteers to be included in the INVEST program.

The INVEST Program invests in volunteers, in athletes, and in the Association.

Requirements Summary

1. Volunteers at USATF events in 2019 shall be required to have SafeSport training.
2. Volunteers at USATF events in 2019 shall be required to have a background check.
3. USATFSC Association shall for 100 volunteers pay the \$18 fee for a 2-year background check for each volunteer.
4. USATFSC shall pay for USATF Membership and background check for 100 volunteers.
5. USATF South Carolina Association shall pay the \$15 membership fee to USATF National, and shall waive the \$15 USATF South Carolina membership fee for each volunteer.
6. USATFSC shall pay the \$18 fee for a 2-year background check for each volunteer.
7. USATFSC shall fund the INVEST Program by increasing by \$1 the daily admission fee to USATF Championship events for spectators from age 18 – 65.