



SAFE SPORT POLICY

Our overarching commitment to a safe and respectful environment.

EFFECTIVE DATE	VERSION	REVIEW CYCLE
June 30, 2026	1.0	Annual

Adopted by the Board of Directors of Northern Force Fastpitch, effective June 30, 2026. This document forms part of the Northern Force Fastpitch Safe Sport Program and applies to all participants. It is governed by, and shall be interpreted in accordance with, the laws of the Province of Ontario and the applicable laws of Canada. If any provision is found to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions continue in full force.

1. PURPOSE

Northern Force Fastpitch (the "Association") is committed to providing a sport environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity and are free from all forms of maltreatment, harassment, discrimination, and abuse. This policy sets out that commitment and the framework that supports it.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all individuals involved in Association activities, including athletes, coaches, staff, board members, officials, volunteers, and parents/guardians ("Participants"), whether at practices, games, tryouts, travel, team events, or online.

3. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- The welfare and safety of athletes is the paramount consideration in all decisions.
- Every Participant has the right to participate free from maltreatment.
- Prevention is achieved through screening, training, supervision, and clear expectations.
- Concerns can be raised safely, will be taken seriously, and will be handled fairly.

4. SUPPORTING POLICIES

This policy is implemented through the Association's Code of Conduct, Screening Policy, Rule of Two, Social Media & Electronic Communication Policy, Concussion Policy, and Complaint & Discipline Policy.

5. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

The Association prohibits all forms of maltreatment, including psychological, physical, and sexual maltreatment, neglect, grooming, bullying, harassment, hazing, and any conduct contrary to the Universal

Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS) as adopted in Canada.

6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board appoints a **Safe Sport Coordinator** responsible for overseeing this program, receiving reports, coordinating training and screening, and reporting to the Board. All Participants share responsibility for maintaining a safe environment and for reporting concerns.

7. REPORTING AND RESPONSE

Concerns are reported and addressed under the Complaint & Discipline Policy. The Association maintains an independent third-party reporting option through the Canadian Sport Helpline. Good-faith reporting is protected; retaliation is itself a violation of this policy.

8. REVIEW

This policy is reviewed at least annually and updated to remain aligned with provincial and national Safe Sport standards.

WHO TO CONTACT

Questions about this document, or any Safe Sport matter, may be directed to:

- **Safe Sport Coordinator, Northern Force Fastpitch:** northernforcefastpitch@gmail.com
- **Independent third party (external):** Canadian Sport Helpline — 1-888-83-SPORT (1-888-837-7678) — abuse-free-sport.ca
- **Emergency:** Call 911 if anyone is in immediate danger.