

Dear MA Club Registration Contacts,

Some of you have asked me recently about the two new changes for the USA Swimming registration this fall. (Fall registration begins September 1st.) Even though some of you may have received news from USA Swimming individually (head coaches re the Athlete Protection Training; clubs re the Pre-Employment Screening), I thought it may be helpful to contact all club registration contacts, so that you would have an early notification of the details coming up for fall registration. Below is the latest word I've received on the Pre-Employment Screen as well as the Athlete Protection Training. I hope it's helpful to you. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Pre-Employment Screen

502.6.8 *All clubs are required to comply with USA Swimming Pre-Employment Screening Procedures for New Employees for all new employees who are required to be members under 502.4 or 502.6.3. (effective August 31, 2011)*

As of August 31, 2011, clubs are required to complete a pre-employment screening for all new employees who are required to be members. The screen has three components:

1. References from three most recent employers
2. Education verification
3. Motor vehicle report

USA Swimming has identified three vendors who can complete the prescribed screening. It is recommended but not required that clubs use the vendor to complete the screen. Services are offered 'al-a-carte;' clubs can order one, two, or all three services from their preferred vendor.

Each club is required to indicate by checking a check box on the 2012 club application form sent in the August mailing to your club that pre-employment screens on new employees were completed in order to renew for 2012.

Pre-employment screens can be initiated and additional program information available at www.usaswimming.org/protect

Athlete Protection Training

502.6.1 *All non-athlete members of USA Swimming must have satisfactorily completed criminal background checks and athlete protection education as required by USA Swimming.*

Background checks can be initiated and additional program information available at

www.usaswimming.org/backgroundcheck

NEW THIS YEAR: In order to renew for 2012, all non-athlete members will be required to complete an on-line athlete protection training course through Praesidium, Inc. The course will be launched September 13-15 in conjunction with an athlete protection presentation at the 2011 USAS Convention in Jacksonville, FL.

The course will be available on-line and accessed through the USA Swimming website beginning mid September. It will take about an hour to complete and is free of charge. Non-athlete members are required to complete this course every two years.

Athlete Protection Training will be accessed and additional program information available at www.usaswimming.org/protect

This information is the most up to date that I've received from USA Swimming. I thought it was important to forward this to you as many clubs are beginning to organize for the fall. I hope it is helpful to you to get this head's up as to what is needed for the registering of non-athletes and hiring of any new employees. Thank you for your help in facilitating these newest components of USA Swimming's Athlete Protection Program. Safe sport is a team effort, and your help is significant to this initiative!