

# CANADIAN SAFE SPORT PROGRAM QUARTERLY SNAPSHOT

2025: April 1 – June 30

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) is pleased to share this snapshot of the Canadian Safe Sport Program's (CSSP) first three months of operation. The official launch on April 1, 2025 marked a major milestone that was built on extensive groundwork that began in May 2024. We are deeply grateful to all the individuals and organizations who contributed to the multi-phase consultation process that helped shape this program.

We approached that consultation the same way we now operate the CSSP: by listening and engaging. Feedback from the sport community made it clear that a single, accessible document outlining the procedural rules for the CCES's independent administration of the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS) was essential. In response, we introduced the CSSP Rules, available in the Safe Sport section of our website.

When a report is made, the CSSP Rules help us determine whether it falls within our scope and jurisdiction. As this first quarterly snapshot shows, many reports involved individuals who are not members of federally funded, national-level sport organizations. This highlights the widespread importance of safe sport practices and the need for continued cultural change across all levels of the sport system in Canada.

We recognize that the relatively low number of reports under the CSSP Rules may reflect a range of factors including limited awareness of the system, uncertainty about where to turn, and, for some, hesitation or fear around coming forward. The high volume of anonymous reports reinforces the importance of offering safe, confidential pathways for disclosure. Building trust takes time, and we remain committed to earning it by responding with care, supporting every individual who chooses to take that courageous step or is otherwise involved in the process, and doing our best to protect confidentiality while being transparent that we cannot guarantee it in all circumstances.

When we launched the CSSP, we made four key commitments:

- to adopt a people-first approach that treats everyone with compassion, dignity, and respect
- to meet established timelines throughout the reporting process
- to communicate transparently and consistently
- to actively listen to those the system is designed to support

We believe the data and outcomes shared in this report reflect these commitments in action and mark the beginning of a comprehensive, evolving program that will promote and protect safe sport in Canada.

**Signy Arnason**

Executive Director – Safe Sport

# CSSP FIRST QUARTER BY THE NUMBERS

In the first three months of operation the CSSP received:



## REPORTS

Reports are submitted by phone or online about individuals who may have violated the [UCCMS](#).



**97%** of reports from non-disabled sport;  
**3%** of reports from parasport.



## INQUIRIES

Inquiries are questions asked by phone, email, or text about the CSSP Rules, other program information, or support services.

CSSP participants are individuals who are subject to the UCCMS and CSSP as defined under Rule 3 of the [CSSP Rules](#). For national, federally funded sport organizations, participants include board members and employees of sport organizations, athletes, athlete support personnel (coach, trainer, manager, team staff, medical, paramedical personnel, etc.), and officials, judges, umpires, and referees.

## Other Information:

- 90 federally funded, national-level sport organizations adopted the CSSP and receive individualized support from the CSSP team to implement the ongoing program requirements.
- 11,745 participants completed the CSSP e-learning and consent. Beginning April 1, 2025, and at their request, Sport Canada receives weekly updates from the CCES on the compliance rates for CSSP-adopting sport organizations pertaining to e-learning/consent completion.
- The [annotated UCCMS](#) was updated and released to contextualize some of the provisions and provide additional information about how the CCES will be guided in its interpretation and application.
- 15 full-time CCES staff support the program across four departments: Intake and Assessments, Investigations, Support Services, and Program Policy and Quality.
- The team has 75+ years of experience in maltreatment and 40+ years in sport integrity.
- In addition to the e-learning module on the CSSP Rules and the UCCMS, we are creating a new module for healthcare practitioners on the UCCMS.



# BREAKDOWN OF REPORTS

Of the **111 reports received** between April 1 – June 30, 2025:

## Method of submission



**5%** made by phone  
**80%** submitted via the online report form  
**15%** transferred from an external entity

## Report submission language



## Level of engagement

Average number of exchanges by phone, email, or text per report<sup>1</sup>



**reporting person**



**interested party**  
 (e.g., sport organization, Independent Third Party (ITP), police, child welfare)

## Reporting person's identity



The reporting person is the individual who reported the prohibited behaviour to the CCES and may or may not be directly affected by it.

## Age

### Impacted person

The impacted person is someone identified by the CCES in the CSSP process as having directly experienced the reported prohibited behaviour and may or may not be the reporting person.



**48%** under the age of 18  
**12%** 18-25  
**14%** 26-39  
**14%** 40+  
**3%** adult – age unknown  
**9%** unknown/undetermined

### Reported individual<sup>2</sup>

The reported individual is a participant reported for potentially engaging in prohibited behaviour(s).



**11%** under the age of 18  
**2%** 18-25  
**7%** 26-39  
**9%** 40+  
**69%** adult – age unknown  
**2%** unknown/undetermined

## Sport

Sports have been grouped together to avoid inadvertently identifying specific cases in this quarterly report. See Appendix A for detail on the specific sports covered under each category.

- Field/Court Team **39%**
- Endurance **2%**
- Power **4%**
- Precision and Target **9%**
- Combat and Martial Arts **8%**
- Aquatic **14%**
- Ice and Snow **23%**
- Adaptive **0%**
- Multi Sport Organizations **1%**
- Canadian Sport Institutes **0%**



<sup>1</sup> As of June 30, 2025. Communication in some reports and inquiries is ongoing.

<sup>2</sup> Under the CSSP Rules, this person is the respondent.

# A. Reports within the CSSP Rules

Broadly, the CSSP addresses reports about alleged violations of the UCCMS by participants of national-level, federally funded sport organizations.

Between April 1 and June 30, 2025, **11 reports** fell within the scope of the CSSP Rules. Many of these reports are still in the reporting process, and in these cases, no findings have been made to date.

## Of the 11 reports:



**four** involved an impacted person(s) under the age of 18 and **one** involved a reported individual under the age of 18. All other reports involved adults.



**four** were made anonymously, while seven individuals reporting disclosed their identity.



**three** fell under the CSSP Rules but the CSSP team was either unable to proceed with the report or did not proceed because:

- one was anonymous and could not be processed without additional information;
- one involved an impacted person who did not want to proceed; and
- one was best managed at the NSO level.

## Types of prohibited behaviour reported<sup>3</sup>

- psychological maltreatment
- physical maltreatment
- sexual maltreatment
- boundary transgressions
- grooming
- interference with or manipulation of process
- discrimination

*Note: Four reports included concerns involving multiple potential prohibited behaviours.*

## Role of reporting person and/or impacted person

- athlete
- coach
- employee
- parent of athlete

In three reports, the reporting person was also the person impacted by the potential prohibited behaviour.

## Role of reported individual

- coach
- athlete
- employee
- official, judge, umpire, referee

The CSSP Rules apply to the CCES and any reports concerning a CCES employee are investigated by the ITP Rubin Thomlinson LLP. This process is independent from the CCES. The ITP has informed us that no such reports were received in the first quarter.



<sup>3</sup> As assessed by the CSSP team. In some instances, the prohibited behaviours that were identified may not be confirmed until an investigation is completed.

# B. Reports outside of the CSSP Rules

When reports fall outside the scope of the CSSP Rules, we believe it's important to guide individuals to other avenues where they may be able to report, if such options exist. Our team researches alternative options and shares this information with the person who submitted the report.<sup>4</sup>

Between April 1 and June 30, 2025, **100 reports** were outside the scope of the CSSP Rules.

## Types of prohibited behaviour reported

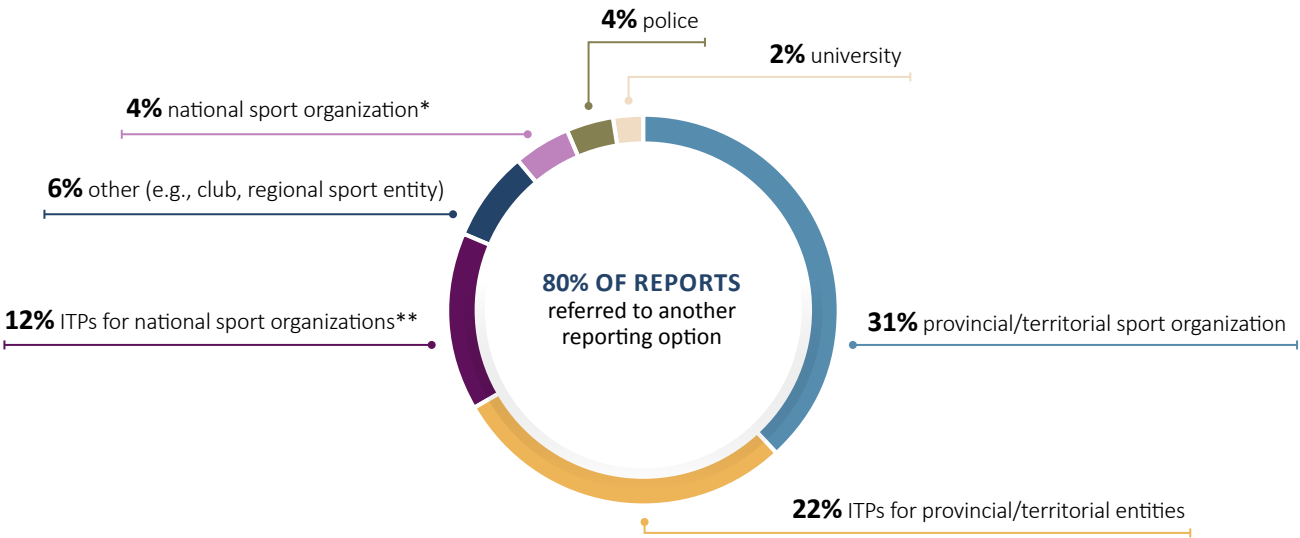
- psychological maltreatment
- physical maltreatment
- neglect
- discrimination
- sexual maltreatment
- retaliation
- boundary transgressions
- failure to report
- grooming
- subjecting a participant to the risk of maltreatment

*Note: 23 reports included concerns involving multiple potential prohibited behaviours.*

## Reasons reports were determined to be outside of the CSSP Rules

- 82% were not at the federally funded, national level of sport. They were at the following levels:
  - 65% club
  - 10% provincial
  - 3% university
  - 2% private organization
  - 2% other
- 13% did not meet the threshold for a UCCMS violation or did not have enough information to determine a UCCMS violation occurred
- 3% were not accepted due to the amount of time that has passed since the reported incident
- 2% involved concerns already addressed through other processes

## Referrals to other reporting mechanisms<sup>5</sup>



\* When a concern reported at the national level does not involve a UCCMS violation, the individual who submitted the report is referred to the national sport organization.

\*\* In certain cases, ITPs for national sport organizations handle reports related to the provincial and club levels.

<sup>4</sup> There is no guarantee the identified organization will accept or act on a report.

<sup>5</sup> Reports may be referred to more than one entity.





# TIMELINES

The CSSP Rules outline timelines at each step of the [report process](#). For more information on CSSP timelines, see Appendix B. This is how often those timelines were met between April 1-June 30, 2025:

Step Completed	% Within Timeline
Confirmation of Report	100%
Notice of Report	100%
Determination of Resolution Method	100%
Notice that Report is Outside Scope of CSSP Rules*	84%

**\*Notice that Report is Outside Scope of CSSP Rules**

Eleven were not sent within 14 days for the following reasons:

- waiting on participant lists from adopting sport organizations;
- waiting for contact with the reporting person or ongoing communication with reporting person to obtain further information to determine if CSSP Rules apply; and,
- contact with an external entity to determine the appropriate reporting mechanism.

# CSSP PROVISIONAL MEASURES AND SANCTIONS

Between April 1 and June 30, 2025, the CCES issued provisional measures against two individuals but no sanctions.

## CSSP Public Registry

The public registry lists individuals with provisional measures or sanctions that restrict sport participation.

- No such measures or sanctions were issued by the CCES during this period.
- Current listings involve Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC) imposed sanctions for individuals at the national level.

## BREAKDOWN OF INQUIRIES

The CSSP team is available by phone, email, or text to answer questions about the reporting process, how to access mental health supports, and our program. These communications remain anonymous unless the individual chooses to share their information.

Of the **143 inquiries received in the last three months**:

### Method of communication



**63% by phone**



**10% by text**



**24% by email**



**3% by other methods**

15% of individuals who submitted inquiries to the CSSP chose to remain anonymous.

### Type of inquiries

- 53% involved concerns outside the scope of the CSSP Rules
- 31% related to questions about the CSSP
- 13% unrelated to the CSSP or the CCES
- 3% related to mental health supports

Of the 53% of inquiries related to concerns outside the scope of the CSSP Rules, 64% were referred elsewhere:

- 20% ITPs for provincial/territorial entities
- 16% other (e.g., club or regional sport entity)
- 12% provincial/territorial sport organization
- 8% national sport organization
- 7% ITPs for national sport organizations
- 1% police

### Level of engagement

- average number of exchanges by phone, email or text:

**4** inquiry contact

**2** interested party  
(e.g., sport organization, ITP, police, child welfare)

- average time to provide information or alternative reporting options:

**4** days

- average response time to adopting sport organizations' queries:

**24** hours

Canada

The CCES acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada through Sport Canada and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

## APPENDIX A: BREAKDOWN OF SPORT CATEGORIES

Note: We have grouped adopting sport organizations together to provide additional transparency on where the CSSP is receiving reports from, without sharing information that could be identifying. We recognize that a sport may fit within multiple categories below.

### 1. Field/Court Team Sports

Baseball, Basketball, Broomball, Cricket, Field Hockey, Football, Handball, Lacrosse, Rugby, Soccer, Softball, Volleyball

### 2. Endurance Sports

Athletics, Biathlon, Climbing, Cross-Country Skiing, Cycling, Dance Sport, Pentathlon, Racquetball, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis, Triathlon

### 3. Power Sports

Bobsleigh & Skeleton, Gymnastics, Powerlifting, Weightlifting

### 4. Precision & Target Sports

Archery, Badminton, Bowling, Bowls, Curling, Equestrian, Golf, Shooting, Skateboard

### 5. Combat & Martial Arts

Boxing, Fencing, Judo, Karate, Taekwondo, Wrestling

### 6. Aquatic Sports

Artistic Swimming, Canoe & Kayak, Diving, Rowing, Sailing, Swimming, Water Polo, Water Skiing & Wakeboarding

### 7. Ice & Snow Sports

Alpine Skiing, Figure Skating, Freestyle Skiing, Hockey, Luge, Ringette, Ski Jumping, Ski Mountaineering, Snowboard, Speed Skating

### 8. Adaptive sports<sup>6</sup>

Blind Sports, Boccia, Deaf Sports, Wheelchair Basketball, Wheelchair Rugby

### 9. Multi-sport organizations

AthletesCAN, Canada Games Council, Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport, Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association, Canadian Olympic Committee, Canadian Paralympic Committee, Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities, Canadian Women & Sport, Coaching Association of Canada, Go le Grand défi, Inclusion in Canadian Sports Network, KidSport, Motivate Canada, Own the Podium, ParticipACTION, Physical and Health Education Canada, Special Olympics Canada, Sport for Life, Sport Information Resource Centre, U SPORTS, Other

### 10. Canadian Sport Institutes

Canadian Sport Centre Manitoba, Canadian Sport Centre Saskatchewan, Canadian Sport Institute Alberta, Canadian Sport Institute Atlantic, Canadian Sport Institute Ontario, Canadian Sport Institute Pacific

<sup>6</sup> Adaptive sports listed here are CSSP Adopting Sport Organizations. Other para-sports are part of their respective NSOs.



## APPENDIX B:

### CSSP Report Process

\*Timeframes may be extended or expedited as appropriate on a case by case basis. Timeframes for review or appeal to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) can only be adjusted by the SDRCC.

