

## C. Definitions

The ICF adopts The IOC Consensus Statement 2008 (the consensus statement): harassment and abuse (non-accidental violence) in sport.

We recommend an in depth reading of the consensus statement which contains definitions and examples for a better understanding of safe sport. Please refer to Appendix B.

Definitions adopted in the consensus statement, endorsed by the ICF:

**Athletes with disabilities:** Those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments that, in interaction with certain barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

**Bullying:** Bullying (or cyberbullying if conducted online) is unwanted, repeated and intentional, aggressive behaviour, usually among peers, and can involve a real or perceived power imbalance. Bullying can include actions such as making threats, spreading rumours or falsehoods, attacking someone physically or verbally and deliberately excluding someone.

**Child and adolescent:** Every human being below the age of 18 years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier. Early childhood relates to those below 8 years of age. Juvenile or young person and adolescents are 10–19 years of age.

**Hazing:** An organised, usually team-based, form of bullying in sport, involving degrading and hazardous initiation of new team members by veteran team members.

**Homophobia:** Antipathy, contempt, prejudice, aversion or hatred towards lesbian, gay or bisexual individuals/ LGBTI Community.

**Neglect:** The failure of parents or care givers to meet a child's physical and emotional needs or failure to protect a child from exposure to danger. This definition equally applies to coaches and athlete entourages.

**Negligence:** Acts of omission regarding athlete safety. For example, depriving an athlete of food/or drink; insufficient rest and recovery; failure to provide a safe physical training environment; or developmental age-inappropriate or physique-inappropriate training methods.

**Physical abuse:** Non-accidental trauma or physical injury caused by punching, beating, kicking, biting, burning or otherwise harming an athlete in a physical manor. This could include forced or mandated inappropriate physical activity (I.e.: age-inappropriate or physique-inappropriate training loads; when injured or in pain); forced alcohol consumption; or systematic doping practices.

**Psychological abuse:** A pattern of deliberate, prolonged, repeated non-contact behaviours within a power differentiated relationship. This form of abuse is at the core of all other forms. Some definitions refer to emotional or psychological abuse interchangeably. In this document, we refer to psychological abuse in recognition that the psyche consists of more

than emotions. It also consists of cognitions, values and beliefs about oneself, and the world. The behaviours that constitute psychological abuse target a person's inner life in all its profound scope.

**Safe sport:** An athletic environment that is respectful, equitable and free from all forms of non-accidental violence to athletes.

**Sexual abuse:** Any conduct of a sexual nature, whether non-contact, contact or penetrative, where consent is coerced/manipulated or is not or cannot be given.

**Sexual harassment:** Any unwanted and unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, whether verbal, non-verbal or physical.

Harassment and abuse can be based on any grounds including race, religion, colour, creed, ethnic origin, physical attributes, gender, sexual orientation, age disability, socio-economic status and athletic ability.

It can include a one-off incident or a series of incidents. It may be in person or online.

Harassment may be deliberate, unsolicited or coercive.

Harassment and abuse often result from an abuse of authority, meaning the improper use of a position of influence, power or authority by an individual against another person.

The IOC Consensus Statement 2008, considers that harassment and abuse are on a continuum; and therefore, should not be separated.

All participants are susceptible to being a target of the various forms of harassment and abuse.