

Attachment 2

Canadian Soccer Association – Child Protection Policy

The Thompson Okanagan Football Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all of its members.

A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any club activity. We subscribe to the Canadian Soccer Association's Child Protection Policy and Procedures, Safeguarding Children and Young People in soccer and endorse and adopt the Policy Statement contained in the document.

The key principles of the CSA Child Protection Policy are that:

The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration

All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation

All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately

Working in partnership with other organizations, children and young people and their parents or caregivers is essential.

We acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in soccer should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse.

Football Club recognizes that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in our club.

Our soccer club has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. It is noted and accepted that the Canadian Soccer Association applies to everyone in soccer whether in a paid or voluntary capacity. This means whether you are a volunteer, game official, helper on club tours, coach, club official or medical staff.

We endorse and adopt the Canadian Soccer Association's Child Protection and Best Practice Guidelines for recruiting volunteers and will:

Develop a role profile

Request identification documents

As a minimum meet and chat with the applicant(s) and where possible conduct interviews before appointing

Request and follow up with two references before appointing

All current Club members with direct access to children and young people will be required to complete a CPIC and or CAR disclosure

If there are concerns regarding the appropriateness of an individual who is already involved or who has approached us to become part of the Club, guidance will be sought from the Canadian Soccer Association



It is noted and accepted that the Canadian Soccer Association will consider the relevance and significance of the information obtained via CPIC and / or CAR and that all decisions will be made in the best interests of children and young people.

It is accepted that the Canadian Soccer Association aims to prevent people with a history of relevant and significant offending from having contact with children or young people and the opportunity to influence policies or practice with children or young people. This is to prevent direct sexual or physical harm to children or young people and to minimize the risk of 'grooming' within soccer.

We acknowledge and endorse the Canadian Soccer Association's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable at our club. If bullying does occur, all players or parents and caregivers should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly. Incidents need to be reported to the Child Welfare Office.

Codes of conduct for coaches, players, officials and parents caregivers, officials and coaches have been implemented by Club. In order to validate these codes of conduct the club has clear sanctions to deal with any misconduct at club level and acknowledges the possibility of potential sanctions which may be implemented by leagues.

