



## **Child Safety and Welfare Policy**

Surrey Football Club (the “Club”) recognizes its responsibility to safeguard the safety and welfare of every child and young person registered within the Club and participating within the Club’s programming and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all members. We are committed to child protection, the Coaches Association of Canada Responsible Coaching Movement and support the best practice policies and procedures within the Canadian Soccer Association’s Guide to Safety as modified from time to time. In support of its commitment to the safety and welfare of the children and young people within the Club, Surrey Football Club endorses and adopts the statements within this Child Safety and Welfare (“Policy”).

### **Key Principles**

1. All children’s welfare is and must always be a paramount consideration.
2. All children and young people have a right to be protected from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation.
3. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

If a child is in immediate danger, call police (call 9-1-1 or your local police) to intervene and a child protection social worker should be contacted to determine whether the child is in need of protection.

If you think a child or youth under 19 years of age is being abused or neglected, you have the legal duty to report your concern to a child welfare worker. Phone 1 800 663-9122 at any time of the day or night.

4. All registered members, Club volunteers and staff must work together with the Club and in partnership with local government organizations to uphold child safety and welfare.

In addition to the policies and codes of conduct of the Canadian Soccer Association (“CSA”) and the BC Soccer Association (“BCSA”), the Club hereby:

1. Acknowledges it plays a role in safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying.
2. Confirms this Policy applies to everyone within the Club whether in a paid or voluntary capacity or a registered player. This includes those who are a volunteer, match official, manager or other team support member, coach, club official, Club executive member, Board member, or medical staff.



## Guidelines

1. The Club's Risk Manager is the first point of contact for all Club members, volunteers, staff, parents or guardians regarding concerns of child welfare, bullying, discrimination or abuse.
2. All registered players and their parents/guardians must agree to the Club's Codes of Conduct & Ethics at the time of registration. Parents are strongly encouraged to complete the nationally recognized Respect in Sport Parent training available online through the BCSA.
3. All Club staff and volunteers must complete a Criminal Record Check which is always to be kept current in accordance with the Club's Volunteer Criminal Record Check Requirements (See Appendix A)
4. All Club staff and volunteers must complete their Respect in Sport: Activity Leader training available through the Club website and maintain their certification under this program throughout their tenure with the Club.
5. All Club staff, volunteers and registered members are required to adhere to the guidelines of the Commit to Kids Guidelines of The Canadian Centre for Child Protection and the Coaching Association of Canada in determining appropriate and inappropriate behaviour when interacting with children and young people.

## Sanctions

In order to validate the seriousness of the Club's commitment to child protection and welfare, the Club will impose sanctions to deal with any misconduct reported under this policy at the Club level and acknowledges the possibility of potential sanctions which may be implemented by BCSA, CSA or regulatory and government agencies in more serious circumstances. All prospective members will be informed of this policy upon registration with the Club.

## Resources

<b>Respect in Sport Training (Parents)</b>	<a href="https://bcsoccerparent.respectgroupinc.com/">https://bcsoccerparent.respectgroupinc.com/</a>
<b>Respect in Sport Activity Leaders)</b>	<a href="https://bcsoccercoach.respectgroupinc.com/">https://bcsoccercoach.respectgroupinc.com/</a>
<b>Commit to Kids</b>	<a href="https://commit2kids.ca/en/">https://commit2kids.ca/en/</a>
<b>The Canada Sport Helpline</b>	<a href="https://abuse-free-sport.ca/en/">https://abuse-free-sport.ca/en/</a>



## **Appendix A: Volunteer Criminal Record Check Requirements**

The Club requires all its staff and volunteers, nineteen (19) years of age and older, complete a Criminal Record Check (“CRC”). All Criminal Record Checks are valid for a maximum period of three years and must be renewed at such time. The Club’s Risk Manager will send a reminder for CRC renewal approximately one month prior to any CRC expiry date.

The approved agencies for Criminal Record Checks are:

- Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP) - BC Government/Ministry of Justice - which is free for volunteers
- RCMP
- Municipal Police Departments

Criminal Record Check Process:

The Club is registered with the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP) Applicant Based Online Service. As part of

this process, the Club has signed and agreed to the terms and conditions for the CRRP Applicant Based Online Service to

facilitate criminal record checks and sharing of completed CRCs.

The Club maintains a unique access code which may be obtained from the Club Secretary or Risk Manager directly.