



# Huntsville Soccer Club

## Child Safety Policy

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### Purpose and Applicability

Huntsville Soccer Club (HSC) runs on the power of volunteers from the community. As not all volunteers are required to undergo a vulnerable sectors check, it is imperative that mechanisms are in place to ensure the safety of participants, particularly minors. For the purpose of this document and policy, HSC considers a child to be under the age of 15 years of age.

### Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

- Parents/guardian will be responsible for their child(ren) at every practice and event
- If an urgent matter arises where a parent/guardian cannot stay for the house league session, they are to arrange with another adult to be responsible for their child
- Said adult must agree to be responsible for the child
- Parent/guardian or responsible adult must be at the field prior to the end of house league to pick up their player(s)

### Volunteer Coach Responsibilities

A Team Official/Coordinator/Staff, must not:

- Engage directly for personal reasons not pertaining to soccer related issues with children through the phone or social media channels such as: email, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, texting, etc.
- Participate in any direct meeting with a child that is not in an openly visible location to another adult such as the team manager, assistant coach and/or the child's parent or guardian.
- Be alone with a child in a non-visible place and/or enclosed space, such as a car, change room or similar area or provide transportation to and from practices, tournaments, festivals and games to children unless accompanied by the child's guardian or with the guardian's consent.
- Use profanity, ridicule, verbal abuse or engage in any unwarranted physical contact with a child.

### Unsupervised Child

In the event a child is left without a guardian, in accordance with the Rule of Two, two adults or one adult and one program coordinator, must remain at the field with the child.

After 15minutes of the session ending, if parents/guardians have not arrived, the HSC board and emergency services are to be notified.

The essence of this policy is to put the child's safety and well-being first. If a HSC Team Official/Coordinator/Staff witness or become aware of any contravention of the above policy, it shall immediately be reported to HSC Board.