



## **Suspicion of child abuse is reported to law enforcement policy**

### **Purpose:**

This policy aims to protect the safety and well-being of youth soccer players in Canada by requiring that any suspicion of child abuse be reported to law enforcement.

### **Scope:**

This policy applies to all individuals involved in youth soccer in Canada, including but not limited to coaches, referees, volunteers, and administrators.

### **Policy Statement:**

All individuals involved in youth soccer in Canada have a legal and ethical responsibility to report any suspicion of child abuse to law enforcement.

### **Definition of Child Abuse:**

Child abuse includes any act or failure to act by a parent, caregiver, or another person that results in harm, potential harm, or threat of harm to a child. This may include physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

### **Reporting Procedures:**

If any individual involved in youth soccer in Canada has reason to believe that a child is being abused, or has been abused, they must immediately report their suspicion to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

In addition, the individual must also report their suspicion to Edmonton Sting Football Club, who will then conduct their own investigation and take appropriate action. The individual making the report must cooperate fully with any investigations conducted by law enforcement or the youth soccer association.

### **Retaliation:**

Retaliation against any individual who makes a report of suspected child abuse is strictly prohibited. Any individual found to be engaging in retaliation will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or termination of their involvement with youth soccer in Canada.

### **Conclusion:**

By following this policy, we can ensure that all individuals involved in youth soccer in Canada are aware of their legal and ethical obligations to report any suspicion of child abuse to law

enforcement. By working together, we can create a safe and positive environment for all youth soccer players in Canada.