

For Informational Purposes Only

Actual waiver completed during the registration process

WA Youth – Barriers to Abuse v 23331

1. Washington Youth Soccer has adopted the following policies to provide security for our members. These policies are primarily for the protection of our youth members; however, they also serve to protect our adult members from false accusations of abuse.

- a. One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is prohibited. In situations that require personal conferences, such as a coach's conference, the meeting is to be conducted in view of other adults and or youths. It is understood that Programs like TOPSoccer require physical contact between soccer buddies and participants to enable safe participation in the activities.
- b. Separate accommodations for adult team staff/official and youth members are required. When traveling, no youth is permitted to sleep in the room of an adult other than his or her own parent or guardian. (Temporary guardian as coordinated by a parent)
- c. Inappropriate use of cameras, imaging, and digital devices is prohibited. While most members use cameras and other imaging devices responsibly, it has become very easy to invade the privacy of individuals. It is inappropriate to use any device capable of recording or transmitting visual images in locker rooms, restrooms, or other areas where privacy is expected by participants.
- d. No hazing. Physical hazing and initiations are prohibited and may not be included as part of any soccer activity.
- e. No bullying. Verbal, physical, and cyber bullying are prohibited in soccer.
- f. Discipline must be constructive. Discipline used in player or team management should be constructive and reflect US Youth Soccer values. Corporal punishment is never permitted.
- g. Appropriate attire for all activities. Proper clothing for activities is required. For example, revealing bathing suits, or clothing, or clothing with foul/offensive language, violent pictures, are not appropriate as part of youth Soccer.
- h. Members are responsible to act according to the US Youth Soccer code of conduct. All members of Washington Youth Soccer are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the principles. Physical violence, theft, verbal insults, drugs, and alcohol have no place in any soccer program and may result in the revocation of membership. Sexual abuse is prohibited.

2. Digital Privacy and Social Media Guidelines

a. A key ingredient for a safe and healthy youth soccer experience is the respect for privacy. Advances in technology are enabling new forms of social interaction that extend beyond the appropriate use of cameras or recording devices (see Washington Youth Soccer's Barriers to Abuse). Sending sexually explicit photographs or videos electronically or "sexting" by cell phones is a form of texting being practiced primarily by young adults and children as young as middle-school age. Sexting is neither safe, nor private, nor an approved form of communication and can lead to severe legal consequences for the sender and the receiver. Although most members use digital devices responsibly, educating them about the appropriate use of cell phones and cameras would be a good safety and privacy measure.

b. The "three Rs" of Youth Protection

The "three Rs" of Youth Protection convey a simple message for the personal awareness of our youth members:

- i. Recognize situations that place you at risk of being molested, how child molesters operate, and that anyone could be a molester.
- ii. Resist unwanted and inappropriate attention. Resistance will stop most attempts at molestation.
- iii. Report attempted or actual molestation to a parent or other trusted adult or youth official.

This prevents further abuse and helps to protect other children. Let the player know he or she will not be blamed for what occurred